

up in the air, if you take a look at it. And yet I questioned the basis for those numbers, because I think, from my understanding of this issue, that frankly very few disputes are going to be resolved in this manner and I think even with the specific section that seems to be attributed to the bulk of the cost, but here again I think it's very unlikely that you would see those kinds of costs occur. In fact, I think the assumption there is that if somehow we pass this bill that every judge in the world is going to go crazy and shut every kid up in a psychiatric hospital and I guess I have more faith in our judicial process than that. So I think that that note can very well be questioned and, in fact, should be questioned. I visited with a number of judges after seeing that saying, good grief, does this really mean what it says? I have been assured that it does not. Another reason that I might have been concerned about this bill at one point was in some cases it's been alleged that this bill will undermine the very purposes of the Family Policy Act, 637, which, of course, was my priority bill a couple of years ago. I don't think that's the case either. Obviously, we don't want to send a lot of kids back to psychiatric hospitals and inappropriate places. If I thought this was going to do that, I would be standing up here ranting and raving the other way. But I'm not convinced that is the case and, in fact, although I still have plenty of frustrations with how quickly we're moving the direction we want to go, that some of you have ranted and raved here on the floor today, I believe that some of our best allies out there are, in fact, in the judicial system. We've had a lot of help from those folks in trying to move down the road and trying to refine better services for children. So I just have to put aside those concerns for right now. I don't think that they are justifiable. So I would take in particular that cost provision with more than a grain of salt. Let me also say, though, that I'm not going to stand up here and bash the Department of Social Services, frustrated though I get, once in a while, too because, as some of you others have said, Senator Crosby said it very well,...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: ...this is no easy job that those folks have. The child protective service workers out there, in particular, have a very, very difficult time. I think what this issue really says is not only do we have this problem right here with how to resolve disputes, but we have a system yet in this state