

that is simply unresponsive to kids, unresponsive to their needs. Senator Wesely has said we probably need to spend more money on them than we do, and that's true, we do. So I guess I would urge you, at this point, not to kill the bill. We should continue to deliberately and carefully assess the impacts of this particular legislation and hope that it brings us a solution, but use this also as a mechanism to continue us talking about what I think has been given high priority in this state, and those are kids in this state. But we have a very long way to go before we're actually able to resolve that. Senator Wesely has done some good things in that direction. Our Select Committee on Children has done some good things in that direction, but we've got to keep hammering away on this or we're simply never going to get where we want to be. So I guess I'm suggesting, don't kill the bill, ask some hard questions. I think there is a mechanism here that deserves our examination.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Mr. Speaker, members, I want to thank all of you for your comments, even though not one of you supported my motion. (Laugh.) Kind of used to that actually, but I at least didn't get yelled at or personally attacked. That was a nice change of pace and I appreciate everybody for taking it on the up and up on the policy issue. Let me kind of tell you, I agree with most of what you're saying. It's not that we're in disagreement, it's a question of how do we accomplish what we want to do. Okay. We've had problems with kids and placement in social services. We have had problems with placement in the judicial branch. I mean I could...I'm not going to go through the examples, you know, the examples. In both cases, we've had kids misplaced, hopefully, not very many, but even the handful of cases that I've seen are a handful too many. In any situation where a child is placed inappropriately, hurt in any way whatsoever I am concerned and want to see it stopped. So how do we accomplish this? That's really...okay, we're all saying we're concerned, we're all agreeing on what we need to do. How do we get the job done? This bill is not the answer, it will make the situation worse than you can ever imagine. What it does is it brings back the contention, the ranker, the division that we had a little bit of before the Supreme Court