

their wards. I would quote to you from a study that was commissioned by DSS with regard to their interest in improving how their foster care program worked. And it was...the study was not a study that condemned DSS in general, but pointed out areas where there might well be improvement including, as Senator Wesely mentioned, the need for more staff, for more funds to pay for the placement costs. Among things listed in here, with regard to the Nebraska Family Policy Act, I would quote their formal policies are extremely consistent with the broad goals. There is ample evidence of an...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR COORDSEN: ...unqualified commitment to the principles of the act. However, because there are larger questions about the overall relationship between DSS policy and actual practice, there are concerns about the degree to which the principles of the act actually have been translated into daily activities. LB 182 would provide the mechanism whereby those deviations from the high concepts of the Family Policies Act, the disagreements on enforcement, could be resolved. The forum is there, I think, within the broader concept of 182...

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time.

SENATOR COORDSEN: ...that...thank you, Mr. President, that those concerns could be addressed.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Elmer, followed by Senator Smith.

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. One of the things I would like to hear some time in this debate, the fiscal note adds 182 positions to the Department of Social Services, that sounds a little bit strange for a small panel of review judges. Seems like they're trying to fill needs in many other areas on the back of this bill to give it a large fiscal note. And I echo the comments of Senator Coordsen, Senator Johnson, Senator Crosby, Senator Haberman, Senator Smith, Senator Schellpeper, and urge the advancement of LB 182. And I would yield the balance of my time to Senator Haberman.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Haberman, approximately four minutes.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the body, reviewing