

CLERK: Mr. President, the next motion I have is by Senator Scofield. Senator, this is your motion to suspend the germaneness rule to permit consideration of your amendment, AM1521. (See pages 1873-74 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT: Okay, Senator Scofield, please.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Just a minute, Senator Scofield. (Gavel.) Let's hold it down so we can hear the speakers, please.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Thank you, Mr. President and members. You have before you an amendment that looks very much on the front page like the previous amendment we discussed, so I want to make sure and reference you to AM1521. When we met over the noon hour and I discussed further particularly the concerns that Senator Chambers raised, I think Senator Chambers raises some valid concerns about the breadth of the language, and even Senator Pirsch was a little bit concerned about her children coming in and using that on her, and I think that we have some language here that gets at the message that I think it is important to convey, and the points that Senator Chambers made about when the time comes to apply these pieces of language, it can be difficult. And as I stated earlier, the reasons for the Family Policy Act were whenever possible to keep families together and to avoid a child protective service worker or whomever to come in and lay their values on that family and unnecessarily disrupt that family's life. But we have had instances of where I think, for one reason or another, children have been left in a home at great risk. And so what I am proposing here is language on page 1 of the amendment, we reiterate our desire to leave children in the least intrusive and least restrictive settings, in this case, we talk about method, consistent with the needs of the child, and then on page 2, where the language was broad enough to raise some concern, what I have substituted here is language that essentially recognizes that there isn't any way in statute that we can give clearer direction about when that child protective service worker and that supervisor is making that decision that there is ever going to be a black and white distinction, but I think the language that is offered here sets a standard of an assessment of risk, and so the language that I am offering states, "The family policy objectives prescribed in sections 43-532 to 43-534 shall not be construed to mean that a child