

would like to underline what Senator Schmit indicated. Due to the activities and work of the Foster Care Review Board, certain matters that are going to have wide ranging ramifications before this year has completed, would not have been brought to the attention of various officials, it would not have been possible for the Legislature through its Franklin Committee to kind of goad various law enforcement agencies to do their job in a more expeditious and thorough fashion. The \$98,000 would make it possible to review 300 additional children who are out of their homes. As long as they are not adopted, or in their own homes, it costs about \$220 per month per child. So if people are talking about being cost effective and would look only at the dollars and cents of this issue, this amount that we would appropriate here would more than be paid back by the number of children, which reviewed by the board, would wind up being returned to their home, or placed in an adoptive situation. I hope that we will override in this instance. The only other item that I spoke in favor of was the textbook loan question. Whenever a program is going to affect children directly, it is not difficult for me to speak in behalf of that program and I don't know of any other one that would more directly affect children who need the help most than these children that would be benefitted if we appropriate this \$98,000. What we have to do in looking at the budget vetoes is to realize that there are some very large ticket items, as we call them, which are not going to be overridden. There were other items that the Governor red penciled that I think she might have felt a necessity to do to cut money everywhere, even in social programs, even those related to the aged, even those related to our children. It then becomes our responsibility as the policy making body to put those very important items back into the budget. Since we have had various occasions dealing with various types of legislation to talk about children who are in this world and based on the opinions, philosophy and theology of others, those they call children who have not entered the world. Some of our bitterest arguments, our most heated debates have swirled around issues related to children and not yet born children. So if we really meant the things we were saying during those heated hours, it would boggle my mind to see us fail to override this small amount. I doubt that the Governor would be offended by anybody, but even if she were, there come times when our responsibility is clear, our obligation is patent, and this is one of those times, so I hope you will vote to override this item.