

wouldn't have to meet all those standards of licensure, but by doing so these people would have access to a couple of dollars or more a day in increased federal support to pay for lunch and other food for their children that they care for. And when you're only getting paid something like \$10.00 a day, two more dollars a day can certainly be of significant assistance. We set up the coordinating commission I talked about before, Child Care and Early Childhood Education Coordinating Commission. It has at least 16 members. It is with the different agencies represented and day care providers and day care centers in an attempt to bring all the different interests together on a regular basis to look at the issue, to continue to monitor problems and to report back to the Legislature and the Governor on what we need to do on child care so that we don't ever have a situation where we're not on top of this very important topic. So a coordinating commission is established as I mentioned earlier. We also deal with the zoning issue. There we've had some difficulty with day care homes in some zoning locales and this would provide that for a day care home you couldn't zone against them, and that...when I talk about day care homes, you're talking about a woman or a man, if they want to, in their own home caring for children and really there is no reason that that needs to be zoned against and so this provision would provide some opportunity for those day care homes to not be discriminated against. In addition, there was a problem a couple of years ago on contagious diseases. We had a child care facility where a contagious disease was discovered among one of the children at the facility...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR WESELY: The facility...the mo...was contacted by the parent involved and told about the disease but the facility did not contact other parents with children in the facility and one of the other children came down with this disease. They did not realize that there was this problem and in the middle of the night the child nearly died, was taken to the hospital and lost hearing and a number of other functions as a result and so this would require a facility if they know of a contagious disease in the facility to contact all the parents and let them know about it. We find that inspection of day care homes, as I said before, is only occurring about 25 percent of the homes, thus about four years passes between inspections. This would set the intent to have home inspected within 90 days of registration and on an annual basis. This is the intent, it's not a mandate, but