

together...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR WESELY: ...cooperating, then those limited resources we have can be stretched as far as possible and we can reach out to those many families, those thousands of children and thousands of families that are now in need of this sort of assistance. This program is, I think that we're looking at a half a million dollar funding for LB 662. It is not going to solve the problem, but it certainly will help and I think, as we talked before of the child abuse cases and other problems, this intervention early on as envisioned by this bill will do a lot to help families, to save families and to stop the abusive situations that are going on right now in our state. So I very much support LB 662 and ask your support as well.

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

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to also thank Senator Scofield for carrying on the leadership role that she has so ably demonstrated in the last couple of years to all of us in the body in this thrust which we've taken in the area of children, families in the community and most recently in this bill that we're dealing with today, LB 662, but I would also, and I'm really proud that my name is on this bill with you, Senator Scofield. But on behalf, and I want to make really clear that this is really on behalf of some children's organizations and specifically the Foster Care Review Board and Voices for Children in Nebraska. I would like to, for the record, since they brought this to me and I just wanted to make sure that there is a comfort level here that these concerns will be expressed when we all get together in this group you're talking about. So I would like to ask if you feel that you could expand a little bit further on these three concerns specifically that I'm going to bring up. Now, I don't know, Senator Scofield, did you receive the same letter that I received which has like a listing of two pages...(inaudible)

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Is this it?

SENATOR SMITH: Okay, right.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Yes.