

PRESIDENT: Excuse me.

SENATOR LANGFORD: In here it says that if the...they have a voluntary registration of day care providers, and if they should voluntarily register, then they would have a mechanism for participation in the food programs offered by the Department of Agriculture, etcetera. So here is another open-ended funding mechanism that we may run into. I really do feel that the day care providers do need to have increased funding, but this bill is a potpourri of all sorts of things. We have no way of knowing what is going to happen. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President. I would like to continue on with a few more questions that I have, and I think that, unless I am longer, I will allow you the rest of my time, the remainder of the time after I have asked the questions, Senator Wesely. But, Senator Langford, I think I heard you say that with the amendment it creates the annual review.

SENATOR LANGFORD: Yes.

SENATOR SMITH: The amendment does not do that. It is in the bill. The amendment does not...I think it stops short of saying that, it is in the bill. Yeah, okay. All right, the bill then, all right, and I was thinking to myself about this. The point was raised by Senator Schmit originally about the idea that it is going to force rates up...

PRESIDENT: Senator Smith, may I interrupt you a minute, please. (Gavel.) Can we hold the conversations down. We can't hear the speakers, so please hold the conversation down. Thank you, Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Yes, thank you. But Senator Schmit, and Senator Wesely, particularly, I am wondering if maybe the free market, which is really based on supply and demand, and also on individual, I mean, the provider out there, that individual provider in the private sector is going to increase its rates past the point where the people of that area can't afford to pay to have their child in the day care center, that might have something to do with keeping the rates down. I am wondering if that could work that way also. Instead of raising rates, it could also keep the rates down because of the locale and the