

great job of leadership in this area, and so forth. What is the federal government, because it talks about Title...what is the federal government doing in this area, Senator Wesely?

SENATOR WESELY: The federal government is looking at legislation right now. The Senate has already passed some legislation, and the House has as well. They are meeting in conference and we expect within the next couple of months legislation that could take care of some of the funding that is in this bill. They are looking at training assistance for providers. They are looking at more assistance in the Title XX area and it is possible that federal monies might be available and not require the sort of state commitment that we have in the bill. So there is quite aggressive federal legislation anticipated in the very areas we are talking about right now.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Lamb would move to amend the bill. (See Lamb amendment on page 550 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT: Senator Lamb, please.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President, and members, my amendment reads as follows: Any person residing in and operating a small family day care home for five or fewer children in any county with a population of fewer than fifteen thousand inhabitants shall be exempt from the certification requirements. This is a rerun of the bill that I introduced last year, LB 462, which loosens the certification requirements from the present three children to five or fewer, and it was brought to my attention because of people in my area who are not willing to go through the red tape of certification, and, as a consequence, it is very hard to find people for child care in those small towns. And you will note that this exemption is only for those smaller counties, those with fifteen thousand population or less, and the reason for that and the justification for that is that in those smaller, sparsely settled areas, people have a lot better opportunity to know other people and to know whether or not their children are in an environment which is good and proper, and it puts a little bit more burden on the parents, where I think it should be. It will relieve the problems of day care for a whole host of young