

believe that the current regulations as they stand and who is covered and who isn't covered by day care home regulation is appropriate. Right now we say if you have three or fewer children, you are not covered. This would go to five or fewer so there are now going to be homes with four and five children in them without any oversight, any minimal requirement to meet any standards, whatsoever. I think that is a serious mistake, and when the committee did deal with the question by Senator Lamb, we did come up with a compromise that could be dealt with on another piece of legislation that would deal with some registration processes and some other changes. The biggest problem we have, I think, is the rules and regulations have been inappropriate. For a long time, there were a lot of complaints and we didn't have rules and regs changed for about ten years. Then we passed a bill a couple of years ago that provided...if I could, Mr. President, if I could.

PRESIDENT: What did you want, sir?

SENATOR WESELY: If I could have a gavel, I would like to...

PRESIDENT: (Gavel.) You certainly may and let's hold it down so that we can hear the speaker. It is very distracting.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. I appreciate that. The situation is that rules and regs were a problem. We did have a bill that passed that said we want the rules and regs changed. Those changes are just now coming into effect. So for all those years all those concerns that were there I think were legitimate and this Legislature responded and the department did change the rules and regs, Senator Haberman. The changes have occurred and they will making those adjustments in the next few weeks. There is all the final wrapping up of details. But Senator Smith's amendment to this bill dealt with some of those rules and regs changes that allows for the overlap, for understanding the need for flexibility, and the changes that are already going to go into effect, and will be further solidified by the amendment to this bill by Senator Smith should ease a lot of the concerns, plus there were other adjustments that were made in the rules and regulations. So we think all of the talk about problems of the rules and regulations of day care homes is a thing that is not as prevalent after these new rules and regulations will come through. In addition, we held hearings in Norfolk and in Beatrice, two areas that we thought we'd find some people concerned about this, and we found nobody testifying in