

opposition to rules and regulations of these type of homes, four and five children in these homes; that we found that people testified in support of rules and regs but they didn't like the idea of some of the particular items; and so those adjustments that I am talking about were made and we did listen and respond to those. But what happens when you don't have these children now in counties of less than fifteen thousand with four or five day care...four or five children in this day care home is you don't have the ability to deal with different complaints and concerns. You don't know what is happening out there, and what we have found is right now that the complaints about day care homes, complaints about abuse, or other types of problems in day care homes is as prevalent in rural Nebraska as it is in urban Nebraska. All this discussion...

PRESIDENT: Excuse me. (Gavel.) Senator Wesely, I am sorry, but we still don't have our attention up, so, ladies and gentlemen, would you please hold it down so we can hear the speaker. It is difficult and some of us would like to hear. Thank you, Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. President. The situation is that problems in rural areas are there just as they are in urban areas, that we find abuses occurring, that we find problems in homes occurring as much in the rural areas as urban. I know everybody feels that there is this idyllic type of circumstance out in rural Nebraska where everybody knows everybody, everybody likes everybody, everybody is above average, and all of the different things that we heard about on Prairie Home Companion, and that is a wonderful image, and I hope and wish that it was there, but it is not necessarily the case because you have problems in rural areas just as you have in urban areas. You have families with difficulties. You have day care home providers that are not necessarily the kind of a day care home providers that you want, and you need to have the ability to step in and try to work with these individuals. Now there are a few particular problems that we have had with rural areas I guess different than urban, and we have had perhaps more lax enforcement of rules and regs out there than we've had in urban areas,...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR WESELY: ...but that isn't because we haven't had problems. It is because we just have been short-staffed and