

one on community grants, that tells you essentially how the grant process would work. Underneath that it tells you some of the training concerns that people raised, and who does what. The bottom one is the evaluation concerns. Some of the issues that were brought to us by Voices for Children and Carol Stitt and others were, we're not sure exactly who does what here and we want this all clarified. So we had meetings with Karen Stevens, we had meetings with Voices for Children and with Foster Care Review representatives. We had meetings with the Center for Children, Family and the Law, and Department of Social Services, and so on. So these are how we chose to address their concerns, and this is what the amendment does. It first establishes a process for reviewing grant applications, and it determines how the recipients of these community funds will work. Essentially, we just replicate what the department is already doing with the \$80,000 that we put in the budget last year. You will recall that we put in 80,000 for small grants that require that representatives of the Departments of Social Services, Public Institutions and Education come together to determine how the money would be allocated. Our goal all along has been to encourage some interagency collaboration and some priority setting. This amendment retains that process and adds two things. It adds the Department of Health to that decision-making team, and it adds the Commission on Families, which we create in the bill. The second thing the amendment does, it addresses a concern that Senator Hannibal raised, and it simply says that unallocated grant funds would not be retained by the Department of Social Services, that they would be lapsed back into the fund. So there is no advantage to an agency for hanging onto funds rather than putting them out to communities. We change, in this amendment, the number of family advocate programs. You will recall the bill allowed three, asked for three family advocate programs. As a reminder, a family advocate is somebody that helps families work their way through the system, it's complex. And sometimes people just have trouble finding their way through the maze. We don't make this quite as strict as the original bill did, in that we say they can do up to three. But there may be other proposals that are more worthy of funding than that, and so we don't want to be too restrictive. The fourth thing we do, we take the Commission on Families, that is created by the bill, and we break up their duties. Upon discussion we found under the original bill the commission simply had too much to do, so we split the duties into mandatory duties and discretionary duties. It also provides that the Director of Family Policy Office, who is now