

include...recommendation of the state or local board shall be included in the record. Also, within this Section 11, a review hearing may be held once every...more than every six months, and may be held at any time after placement of the child, if it is requested in writing by the state board, with accompanying statement of reasons for calling the review. Members of the state board or its designated representative may attend and be heard in any hearing conducted, and may participate in a review through counsel, with the right to call and cross-examine the witnesses and present arguments in the case. The final section provides a notice of review hearing and the right to participate is to be provided to the State Foster Care Review Board. That is the substance of the bill. With that, I would answer any questions, or simply ask for the advancement of the bill.

PRESIDENT: Okay. Thank you. Mr. Clerk, I understand that we have an amendment.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Yes, Mr. President. The first amendment I have to the bill is from Senator Smith. That amendment is on page 1076.

PRESIDENT: Senator Smith, please.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the body, if you'll look in your books, on page 1076, Journal page 1076, you'll see a printed copy of what was originally LB 290. LB 290 was a bill which was heard last year in the Health and Human Services Committee. It was passed out of committee with no dissenting votes. It was supported by such groups as...in fact it was brought to me by Voices for Children. And it's been a long time priority for the Foster Care Review Board, and it was supported by the Department of Social Services. And I wanted to inform you that in addition to that, last year the Governor included, in her State of the State address, the concern about foster care training and included in her budget a funding proposal for that. What I would like to do is just give you a quick run down of what the bill originally had in it, and which it still does, except that now it would contain, of course, the provisions that were the committee amendment. So what the bill now becomes is a bill that would require persons licensed to provide foster care to receive foster parent training before they could be licensed, and they have to do that then on an annual basis thereafter. Presently, there are no training requirements. Then...and the amount of training that they would