

earmarked in the A bill actually is for that purpose that he's talking about. So I see no problem with saying "shall" instead of "may". And I would support that.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Did you wish to close, Senator Bernard-Stevens? The question is the adoption of the Bernard-Stevens amendment to the Smith amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you voted? Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 11 ayes, 0 nays on the Bernard-Stevens amendment to the Smith amendment.

PRESIDENT: The Bernard-Stevens amendment to the Smith amendment is adopted. Do you have any other amendments to the Smith amendment?

ASSISTANT CLERK: Nothing further to the Smith amendment, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Okay. Now we're back on your amendment, Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President. I wish I had Ernie's gift for speaking when he gets on the floor here sometimes. What I would just like to do is remind all of you that this is a bill that was heard last year, was favorably reported out of committee by the members of the committee, and has had a lot of support from other individuals. I'm very hopeful that the Governor's support will be there again this year. And what it would do is now require that any person who becomes a foster parent would have to, before they can become a foster parent, receive between 12 to 24 hours of training, and then every year thereafter. There is an A bill attached to it. That money in that bill is earmarked, with a lot of the funding coming from the sale of some lands, which is being proposed through a bill by Senator Crosby, LB 1036. And they shall be reimbursed for the costs that are accrued to them to get this training. We're hopeful that this is going to result in fewer disruptions as far as placements are concerned in foster families, and that then those people will be better equipped to deal with the children that they are serving, because of the special needs that many of those children have. And the foster parents, themselves, come to understand the system that they find themselves in and can deal with the complexities of it and with caring for these