

personnel, please leave the floor. All senators please come to the floor and record your presence.

SENATOR DIERKS: Mr. President, I would accept call in votes.

SENATOR LAMB: Call in votes will be accepted.

CLERK: Senator Morrissey voting yes. Senator Abboud voting yes. Senator Coordsen voting yes.

SENATOR LAMB: Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SENATOR LAMB: Debate has ceased. Senator Wesely, to close on your amendment to the amendment.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. Mr. President, and members, the Haberman amendment would provide for a study of the Southwest District of the social service system to examine problems there and try and find solutions, and I applaud him. I think that there is, in fact, a problem there that needs to be addressed. I am simply suggesting that that problem is not unique. It is shared by every other district, every other area of the state, that we are not living in different worlds. We have different problems, perhaps, but similar problems more than unsimilar, and that we have children that are in foster situations that are not conducive to their health and welfare, that we have abusive situations in families that we need to examine and be aware of and deal with. Those are everywhere across the state, not isolated to urban or rural, to large or small towns. We have got a problem that is statewide. To begin to address that problem only in one district is a mistake, I believe, and what I feel is that we should amend his amendment to do this on a statewide basis. The way I would envision us doing that is to go to each district, to go to each area of the state, to talk to the people involved with the system, the parents, the foster parents, perhaps the children, if possible, the judicial system, the caseworkers, and everybody else that we think needs to be involved and ask them what the situation is, ask them the particular problems they are experiencing, and ask them for their suggestions on how it could be improved. And district by district, area by area, we build some idea of where our state is. You know, I don't know if it will take 50,000. It is unlikely that that will be enough. We can examine that cost