

haven't seen much of you lately, I don't know if you're earning my money or not. And he told the client, you pay me to keep you out of court, not get you out of court, and, in a way, that's what this is. We're trying a system which is less expensive, I think more satisfactory, less arbitrary, should be less acrimony and promote better feelings within the contested individuals than the court case. I think that, in a way, this might also solve some of the problems we have in the court system. Senator Kristensen speaks in glowing terms of the court system. I've defended the system many times. I will have to say there have been some times when I...well, I guess it brings out the best in me not to be critical of some of the problems I have seen. But, nonetheless, this might, in a way, help relieve some of that burden. So I would hope that we would advance the bill and I hope, Senator Landis, it does not become a bureaucracy and I think that surely you will watch it, see to it that it does the job it's supposed to do and does, in fact, serve the people of the state the way the present mediation system does. Once in awhile in government we have seen it happen where we create an entity to do a job and then they just administer themselves. I don't think that will happen here and I'm counting on Senator Landis to see to it that it won't happen and that it will carry out the function which he wants it to do. And I hope you would advance the bill.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Schmit. Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I'm supportive of LB 90 for all of the reasons I've heard so far. My only concern about it is when I read the laundry list of cases that may be accepted by an approved center, it seems rather limited. And I was going to ask Senator Landis if he could comment on that and to set the stage and then I'll let him have the rest of my time, that I work with a group of small businessmen who I know are constantly bumping up against one another about terms of contracts, about payment terms, about quality of service provided, all of those kinds of things, that would appear to be likely candidates for this type of dispute resolution. I was thinking somewhat in a joking sense here of adding an amendment that anything discussed on the Bruce Williams show also could be something that could be considered for dispute resolution. Those types of problems that, in many ways, it's a bigger hassle to hire an attorney and wait for your court case to come up, but could be settled through this mediation process, I'm curious as to why you have limited the