

our system so that all these children's needs could be met within the State of Nebraska, particularly if we could it in a way that was more family oriented and at least community based in our approach. There are those children who may need out-of-home placement because it's more appropriate for their education to do a residential program and I think that is an argument that you will hear a lot with the hearing impaired and that's something that we have to take into account. The intent here is to look at the needs that we have with our children and our families and try and come...and then look at those in comparison to our resources and see if we can't come up with better systems for serving these children within as much as possible their own families and their communities. I want to say not only are we going to try and come up with an interagency approach for making decisions about out-of-home placements but we're also going to be looking at when we make decisions about children returning to their home communities the bottom line is that we want to do what is appropriate for the children and their families and kids are not going to get dumped back into communities and dumped back into schools solely for the purpose of coming up with programs within the state or programs that are less expensive. So the focus here is on coming up with appropriate responses, appropriate programs for children and their families and as much as possible doing...using our resources most efficiently to do it within the State of Nebraska.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Rasmussen. Before I recognize the next senator, I would like to direct your attention to the south balcony. Special guests of Senator Moore today are 21 fourth graders from Bradshaw Elementary School and their teachers. Would you rise and be recognized. Welcome to the Chambers today. I now recognize Senator Lynch.

SENATOR LYNCH: Question.

PRESIDENT MOUL: There is no one else wishing to speak on the issue. No one else does. Senator Robinson, would you like to close?

SENATOR ROBINSON: My closing will be very brief. The purpose of the bill is to develop a system for serving young people with disabilities and aiding communities, families and other interested individuals in bringing this about. I rise in supporting 638. Thank you.