

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Bernard-Stevens. Senator Wehrbein on the advancement.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, Mr. Speaker, members. I don't want to beat a good thing to death. But I just want to indicate my support for this. I think a comprehensive look and an oversight of all of our facilities is very appropriate. This bill does that and brings it together. And I, too, have checked out some of the concerns that Senator Bernard-Stevens and Senator Moore have talked about. And if it's appropriate to have intent language in the bill I would support it. But I think it is the intent to have a professional look at the buildings and it would be other buildings into the future so that they are renovated, remodeled, or used, or abandoned, or whatever without, not without a due process or an appropriate study. So I strongly support Senator Peterson's bill.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Anyone else wishing to discuss the advancement? Seeing no one, Senator Peterson, do you wish to close?

SENATOR PETERSON: Just a few other remarks in regards to this bill. This will apply to all buildings that will be across the state. And, of course, we're centering right now, a lot of talk on the Stone Building. The county commissioners, 15, 16 years ago, the Stone Building became available, went out and looked at it and said, hey, this looks like a pretty good thing. The rent was right, and they went back and discussed this with Social Services, and the Department of Aging, and the Veteran Service Officer, and Goldenrod Hills and those people and said, you know, we want you to go out and look at this place, and we think it's a good, good deal because they was all scattered all over town, and everybody can be together. And this is what they did and everybody was glad and moved out there. And so it's been a good working relationship because of somebody in aging, goes to the Department of Aging today and needs to go up to Social Services, they're right there. If they need to go down to Goldenrod Hills for some reason, or Veteran Service Officer, or a veteran comes in, has any problems, why they're all there. So we want to keep them all together. And we don't want them moving out and moving all over and that. That adds to the cost. And so the savings to the taxpayers would be great. And it's time that, in talking to some of them that worked on the bill with me that have indicated that they thought it was a great piece of legislation, where everything was together and