

understanding it is a process to mediate the decisions about the custody and the visitation and all the interactions with the children. So I think there is research out there that suggests that the mandatory aspect of it does help people see the potential benefit of mediation and, in fact, may change some people's minds and get them into mediation who might otherwise not choose this on a voluntary basis. It's not going to be the cure-all in all situations, but I think there's substantial evidence out there to suggest that it is a very workable and worthwhile project to do and I would urge you again to oppose the Landis amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Rasmussen. Senator Kristensen. Have a request or motion to cease debate. Do I see sufficient seconds? I do. We'll now vote on the motion to cease debate. All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted on the motion to cease debate? Have you all voted? Have you all voted on the motion to cease debate? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 25 ayes, 1 nay to cease debate, Madam President.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Debate has ceased and I will recognize Senator Landis for closing.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you. Madam President, I'd like to yield the first couple of minutes to Senator Kristensen.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Kristensen.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Madam President and members of the Legislature. In closing on this amendment, Senator Landis will explain to you in summary what the amendment does again, so those of you who have not been able to follow the debate through the noon hour and so on, because it can be confusing at times, he will do so. Senator Ashford made reference to those who practiced in the area and who did it and he passed out a letter from Judge John Icenogle out in Buffalo County, an area where I practice in as well. I also wanted to pass out to you, so you had the other side of that story, I sent him the committee amendments after they were approved and asked for his comments and I have since passed out the second letter where he takes a look at that and analyzes that, so I don't want the first letter, which was dated February 26 of '91, to go unchallenged