

We, by design, attempted with this bill to provide a great deal of latitude about the protocols that would be established in each one of the counties or groups of counties. And I'm relatively comfortable that the...that latitude that's in the original bill should allow a county that may not have all these resources to work with other counties to put together an effective system for child abuse investigations and treatment plans. I am willing to go with this amendment with the language that's in here because it does have a bit of a check and balance in the sense that they must submit a plan and the Crime Commission will judge whether or not it meets the goals or the intent of the original bill which is to foster communication and coordination between all those parties that are involved with child abuse investigations and the development of treatment plans. It also says that if that plan is not approved then it must go back to the county and they must come up with a team plan and protocol for carrying this out. I, from that perspective, am willing to accept that. I think there are enough safeguards in there. I appreciate what Senator Bernard-Stevens is attempting to do. We cannot make people function well as a team simply by passing this legislation. But we do want to say that they need to find ways to work and share information together so that they do a better job in these investigations. I would also say that in terms of the other two portions of the amendment I'm in full support of. That, as far as I'm concerned, was what was originally intended in the bill and just makes it clear that that's going to happen. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Rasmussen. Senator Schmit. That is...are there any other lights? I don't see any. Senator Bernard-Stevens, would you like to close?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Yes, I would. I appreciate Senator Wesely's comments and particularly Senator...and also Senator Rasmussen's, not particularly Senator Rasmussen. Both their comments were equally good. One of the concerns that I've always had again in education is that sometimes we have very good ideas and we have something that works. And we're so desperate to want, we want other people to do the same thing because we know it works. But time and time again in education in working with it, I know Senator Rasmussen has experienced this as well, and Senator Wesely in health issues, that when we do that and all of a sudden those that are in other areas that haven't thought about it say, oh, by the way, this is what you have to do. You have to form this team, you're going to have to