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therefore, the Ashford and Moore amendment makes sense to help us at least keep those monies for programs like Uta Halee and others, but also we have to recognize that this isn't the end of it and the sooner we get on with the business of understanding the issue in total, the better off we'll be. Interesting facts and figures important for us to consider as we consider this issue. I hope you support the amendment.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Rasmussen.

SENATOR RASMUSSEN: Mr. President and members of the body, I, too, rise in support of this amendment, especially in lieu with combining it with Senator Withem's amendment. I mentioned last night that the situation we're in gives us an opportunity to examine our priorities. It also gives us an opportunity to take a close look at how we're spending our money and whether or not there are more efficient ways to do that. And I think that's one of the good things that's happened with this particular issue. As we look for ways to be more efficient with our dollars, we are forced to take a close look at this particular program. It is, without a doubt, a very complex situation. We are taking a whole system dealing with the wards of the state which is, in and of itself is complicated and then we are talking about the whole system of special education and that, too, is a very complex system, and when we try and move those two together and try and figure out how it all works, it's difficult to understand. I have some concerns about making the children who are in foster care homes the responsibility of the school districts but I am prepared to do that because I think, conceptually, it is right that where a child resides is where they ought to be seen as belonging and that the school district where they are residing should be supporting their educational programs. I am concerned about this also because I know that one of the things that has happened is because DSS pays 100 percent of the educational cost under the existing system and under a special ed system the school district gets 80 to 90 percent, in fact, in fact, because I have been doing an interim study on it, there are those families who have been encouraged to make their children wards of the state in order to access services in their community. And I, philosophically, find that most distressful in a state that has a Family Policy Act that we would have any policy in place that would encourage families to make their children wards of the state. And it is not an easy situation for families but they have done it in many circumstances because they saw no other way to get the services