

September 30, 1992 LB 3

the short turn around time. But I would expect you would see people like the Director of Social Services or her designee, the commissioner of education or his designee and then representatives from residential homes, foster care homes, group homes, teachers, superintendents, special education experts, school administrators, child and family advocates, people from the Foster Care Review Board, those sorts of people, sitting down and hammering out some sort of recommendation to the Legislature as to how this funding ought to be accomplished, with the goals being to look at those issues that were present in the amendment that I mentioned yesterday, and then report back to us in time for action next session. Keep in mind that some of the issues that others have said it will be great to get a commission to look at all these multitude...

SENATOR WARNER: One minute.

SENATOR WITHEM: ...of foster care issues,...

SENATOR WARNER: Excuse me.

SENATOR WITHEM: ...they are...they are not likely to have time to get into all of those in great detail. My idea would be a fast track look at all of these funding trail questions. If, as a result of that, there is nothing in the inherent powers of directors of Social Services and commissioners of education to not allow this group to continue on to look at the other issues of who is responsible for the education of these kids and are the policies that we're creating at the state level actually working at the local level, lots of other things that come into this foster care placement, I think maybe the wrestling with this issue in the last couple of days as a result of the introduction of LB 3 could lead to some very positive policy ramifications at the end of this process. And, hopefully, the end of the process that's created will not come on January 15th of 1993, although that would be the deadline by which we, the Legislature, would expect at least some recommendations on these specific questions here of where the education funding comes from and who's responsible for it. So I would urge support for this particular amendment, keeping in mind it's being presented in lieu of pushing the original LB 3, as introduced, or even pushing the amendment that I had circulated for comment, circulated for comment yesterday and wished I hadn't gotten quite as many comments as I did get, but that is the process and there were some concerns raised by and I appreciate those that