

recognizes Senator Maurstad.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Madam President, I also rise in opposition to the amendment and to the bill itself. As I understand it, in some of the less populated areas of our state sometimes it's very difficult to find attorneys to fill this particular necessary role. And I certainly would not want to provide any more obstacles or, maybe better phrased, any more excuses for individuals not to provide this beneficial service to the communities and the individual young people. So I would urge the body to carefully consider the amendment and also the bill and oppose it. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. The Chair recognizes Senator Avery.

SENATOR AVERY: Madam President, members, one thought here, and I was trying to put this in as flexible terms as possible to give that guardian some flexibility. Could I ask Senator Matzke a question?

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Matzke.

SENATOR MATZKE: Yes.

SENATOR AVERY: You had stated that you were a guardian ad litem, and in that process would it...is it possible that a juvenile be placed in some home, that potentially he could be there, you know, there in the future for a long time as a permanent...on a permanent basis, placed there temporarily which the process, whatever be it, that he was involved in, could be placed there temporarily where potentially that would be his permanent home?

SENATOR MATZKE: That's possible. A child that is subject to a proceedings where a guardian ad litem is appointed is often placed in a foster home, both on a temporary basis and on a semipermanent basis.

SENATOR AVERY: Well, then would it not be the responsibility of the guardian ad litem to potentially check out those individuals if it could be that that would be a permanent residence?

SENATOR MATZKE: Yes, you're absolutely right. It would be the responsibility of the guardian ad litem to visit with the child,