

this all fits together, but I would be interested probably in a little more information on that.

SENATOR WESELY: Well, I think that the department is going to...that's why they've reduced the figures down, they're going to pick up some of the costs. But the movement forward on implementing these, we passed a bill in '91 and they haven't moved forward because they just didn't have the staffing. So they do need to have this additional, it's not that much but it would make the difference in getting it done or not.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Is any of this area cash funded at this point? I can ask Liz that later. In the licensing part, there's...

SENATOR WESELY: Not that I know of.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Okay, I'll...I may check on this a little more.

SENATOR WESELY: Sure, absolutely.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Thank you.

SENATOR WESELY: Be glad to work with you on it.

PRESIDENT PCBAK: Thank you, Senator. Senator Brown, your light is next, followed by Senators Pirsch, Senator Witek and Senator McKenzie.

SENATOR BROWN: Madam President and members of the body, I have been very proud to serve as chair for the...co-chair of the Child Care and Early Childhood Education Coordinating Committee for the past three years. The committee is a group of individuals, some who are parents, some who are providers, people who just care about what happens to young children in out of home care. And they have done an extraordinary job, I believe, in the three years that I have been involved with them in trying to promote agendas that will guarantee the best quality of care for young children. The role of the coordinating committee is to coordinate the activities between the Department of Social Services and the Department of Education, as it has to do with child care. This has not always been a thoroughly easy job, and so LB 401, in many respects, is just to put into statute some of the things that we need to have