

February 14, 1995 LB 402

child placing agency, which currently it's \$25 a year for that annual license. So we allow, under the committee amendments, to go to \$50 for the two-year license that would be provided. I want to emphasize here that the foster care home is not charged anything. Obviously, we need to encourage and provide for that. These are just the agencies that are out there dealing with foster care. And the amendment that we offer also deals with a probationary and provisional license that's provided for under the bill, but it's clarifying in nature. With that, I'd ask for support of the committee amendments.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Any discussion of the committee amendments? Seeing none, Senator Wesely, do you wish to close? Closing is waived. The question before the body is the adoption of the committee amendments to LB 402. All those in favor vote aye, all those opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? Have you all voted? Have you all voted? Please record.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 28 ayes, 0 nays on the adoption of committee amendments.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The committee amendments are adopted. The Chair recognizes Senator Wesely to open on LB 402.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. Madam President, members, again, basically this bill is based on a bill we passed a couple of years ago making changes in child care licensure, where we allowed for provisional licenses and probationary licenses, and allow more flexibility for individuals. For instance, sometimes there are different standards you have to meet to be a foster care provider, and sometimes it takes a while to do that. And we allow for a provisional license until they meet those standards. And what we basically did was base some of the successes we found in some child care licensure and applied them to foster care, and it should make the licensure of foster care better for everybody involved. That's really the main thing. It goes from one to two years on the license, and allows some flexibility on the renewal allowance of the license so that if you'd miss the deadline you can still be a foster care provider. And so, you know, foster care is a big issue, and trying to help foster care families with all the maze of regulation, that's what this bill is about, and ask your support for it.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. Is there any further