

light is next.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, thank you, Madam President, members of the body. I, too, rise in support of the amendment, have no problems with the amendment and would just like to say to Senator McKenzie, who's the primary sponsor of this bill, that I'm fully supportive of what you want to do this summer. I guess my awareness of all of the different ramifications of this was not complete. I did not realize that if we pass this bill, which I think is a very important bill, it will affect only, of course, the State Family Policy Act, and there are federal guidelines there that may have implications, do have implications for the Department of Social Services. So we're not going to solve all of our problems with this bill. So I'm very supportive of what you're trying to do and would encourage you for sure to submit that interim study resolution. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Madam President, members. I'm not sure, having just had the amendment it would be helpful to have these a little further ahead of time to know what impact they are. But I think Senator Witek's concerns are unfounded. I don't think that there's an impact on this that will be negative, and in fact it's a very positive impact. If you look at the hearing you'll see everybody that's been involved in child issues, child safety issues was in support, including Department of Social Services. So I think the bill, as it was drafted, was fine. But if Senator McKenzie feels comfortable with this amendment then it's something that I can agree to at this time, but I reserve the right, after looking at its impact, to consider changing it. I think the bill is fine in its current form. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Madam President, members of the body. And, Senator Wesely, I'm glad to hear that your concern on quickly offered amendments and unprinted amendments, I hope you take that to heart when we get later on, on some of the amendments that you may be posing a little bit later on. But that being said, I just want...I agree...I'm going to support the Witek amendment, but I'm also going to be voting no