

SENATOR AVERY: I think because of the diversity of the state and the need and the requirement for the different reviews and where the children are at is going to be a complication to that testing process.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Senator Avery. Well, he's exactly made the case of why we shouldn't adopt this bill. The diversity in this state and the complexity of the issue is such that we shouldn't be moving forward in the fashion being proposed here without knowing what we're doing. There is a diverse situation in this state. Some areas can work together. Some states can cooperate. I mean, some areas of the state can cooperate, others cannot. We have the potential of joining forces in ways to try out different approaches across the state, seeing what will work. This is a...this approach from Senator Avery is a one-size-fits-all, never tested before in the State of Nebraska solution to a problem that doesn't have any sort of answers to the questions that are being raised on the floor, other than it will be fine, we'll be okay. I mean, that's what I've been hearing in terms of the floor debate. It's not good enough for me. I think that when you make a change like this and the implications are there fiscally and otherwise impacting children you should know what you're doing, and I don't think we do in this case. We're hoping, we're anticipating, we expect but we don't know, and the way to know is to try it out. There's absolutely no reason why we couldn't take the concept that's being suggested here of moving some staff over from DSS, working with the Foster Care Review Board in an area of the state, in a certain judicial district, where in those cases we try it out in that fashion and then we have the answers to the questions that were being asked. I don't know why we can't take that approach. It's the obvious way to go forward with this, and, again, I suggest that the bill ought not...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR WESELY: ...go forward in the form that it is now, that there's a better way to proceed and I don't...I have yet to hear any reason why we can't take a different approach that answers the questions we have before we stick something across the State of Nebraska without knowing the consequences.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Day.

SENATOR DAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members, we've been