

May 9, 1995

LB 642

these children. It is the review of the plan that DSS makes which is most logically housed in the...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...Foster Care Review Board. That's why 642 takes these reviews, which are now internal, and puts them in the pile of external reviews that Foster Care Review Board is now doing. Take a look at the supporters of 642 and who will you find but judges. The people who really are there in the toughest of cases reviewing the issues, you will find that the County Judge Association which, for the most part in this country...in this state, does the juvenile issues of the state, the judges say this external review which we have access to, which we get to see if want to, which we...which has the expertise of the volunteer board, is the review we, in the case of supporting 642, means we have more confidence in. We need those ten employees over in the Foster Care Review Board...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute. Excuse me, time, time, as opposed to one minute. Senator Lindsay. Senator Lindsay yields his time to Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Senator Lindsay. Let me follow up. I wanted to answer Senator Chambers' question about what are the problems that are causing some of us to rise up and say, let's go slower on this proposed changeover. And let me tell you the dynamic and it's a significant dynamic that will change the paradigm shifts, that we have to recognize that we're going from the Foster Care Review Board being an independent entity picking and choosing what cases it reviews, picking and choosing when it reviews those cases and then coming in and providing whatever insight they have on whatever cases they choose. From that sort of independent oversight status, with the bill that's before you of Senator Avery, they become a part of the bureaucracy, in a sense, that they have a time limited responsibility that they must meet to meet federal obligations or face sanctions. They have to do it within a certain time frame. They have to meet certain obligations and if it doesn't get done, we pay the price. The whole dynamic changes. They go from the free agent, picking and choosing what they want to do, when they want to do it, to now having that function continue but they're also supposed to be part of the whole process, having a certain amount of time and having to do the job that needs to be done or facing, for all of us, the costs and the consequences from the