

That can happen anyway. But I also want you to know that bridges that we started to build in the committee as we sat down and discussed this, had ideas to work through it, and then this bill was advanced and some harsh things have been said, it may be difficult to back up and recreate that effort to work together and compromise. But I think we can still get back to that point. It's unfortunate that there's been such conflict but the floor discussion has been helpful to lay out concerns of both for and against, I want also to acknowledge, Senator Kristensen and others, I can't stand to defend the Department of Social Services on all of the work that they've done on this. They have had problems. The quality has not always been there, obviously, and that's why we have the Foster Care Review Board. But the other thing is that they have not, as I understand it, ever been sanctioned for not meeting a federal deadline on doing these permanency plan reviews. They have not ended up costing the State of Nebraska because they haven't gotten the job done in the way it should be done and in the time allowed and, as a result of that, we have been well served by them at least getting that part of the aspect done. With more staffing, with more expenditures, of course, they could do a better job. But it seems to me that we're trying, under a limited budget, to do the best we can and the flaws in it need to be addressed and the best way to do that is to try out different concepts, not come down with one idea that we think is absolutely the solution when, obviously, there are concerns that that is, in fact, the best solution. So I rise in support of the bracket motion. If we bracket the bill, we can take the next months and try out these ideas and in January have a better idea of what would or would not work and I would pledge to work with the different parties to try and reach as much of an understand as we can on the issue so that in January we would be in a better position to decide what course of action to take.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Mr. Clerk, I understand you have a motion on the desk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Chambers would move to amend the bracket motion by changing the date from January 9, 1996 to May 11, 1995. (FA212 appears on page 2078 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature,