

motion and continue our discussion of the bill? But it would be better if my amendment and Senator Bohike's bracket were withdrawn. But if she is intent on going through with it then I'm going to continue to amend it and I'm going to force additional discussion of this bill. We have a problem. Nobody has said there is not a problem that we're dealing with something which is imaginary. We're dealing with children. Some people are saying that if the Foster Care Review Board is put in a position of the primary agency doing the reviews, they will become the problem. They will not be there for us to call when the work is not properly done. That is presuming that the board whose only job is to conduct these reviews will be as slipshod and careless as DSS has been. With all the other activities that divert the attention of DSS employees, we wind up with the kind of problems of children not being dealt with as they should be. Senator Bernard-Stevens said, in answer to my question, and I agree with him, that if and when we transfer employees from DSS to the board and those employees no longer are charged with doing these reviews, DSS is going to say, we still need those employees because there are other things they need to do. My belief is that there are other things they must be doing right now or they're not doing anything because the work that needs to be done for these children is being neglected. So I hope, as any of you speak on this, this motion, my amendment to the motion, you can give us some sensing as to whether or not you want to just throw away all the work we've done up to now, the work that remains to be done on Senator Avery's amendment. The bill was advanced from committee. We are dealing with an amendment that will change that bill. That amendment has been amended. Nobody has indicated that amendments offered by Senator Schimek or anybody else who has had an amendment considered did so just to delay consideration of the bill. That has not happened. This bill has continued to be discussed by a multiplicity of senators when on some occasions there were not more senators in the Chamber than those discussing it, maybe six or seven. But this has not been one of those instances where two or three people have been talking. Two or three people have offered amendment after amendment which amendments have been defeated systematically by overwhelming numbers. That has not happened. We are legislating in the way that we should. We know that at the end of the session we're going to run out of time. We know that. It happens that this important issue came up at this point. Which other important issues will we throw in on the towel...throw the towel in on and say, well, let's get this one out of the way so we can get to