

circumvented through that. And here on the floor, again, we are...we, you know, are faced with this push in this effort to move forward. And let me tell you there's some question about whether we ought to do anything this session at all, whether you agree with or not agree with the bill, because the Congress is right now talking about changing the whole ball game we're playing in. The federal rules that have to be met on terms of review are now at this point of being stricken from the legislation now in the Congress, so the whole concept that we're under discussion, that's under way right now in this discussion could not exist in just a matter of months.

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR WESELY: So, in my view, there's so much uncertainty in the federal side. There's uncertainty in terms of the particulars of this bill, as Senator Hillman has talked about, the costs and the timeline and the different things that she has mentioned. Again, with that uncertainty at the federal level and the state level, taking the time and stepping back from the issue is the best course of action. Senator Day did lead the study last interim. We did lay out some concepts and some options but I think nobody expected legislation to pass this session but to continue the work into the next interim, that's where we ought to go. I support the bracket.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Dierks, on the bracket motion.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I stand in opposition to the bracket motion. My whole reasoning is that...and I agree a great deal with what has been said so far on this issue this morning. But my whole position has been that we need to address the concerns of all the children in foster care in this state and we have not done that, and we won't do that if we bracket this bill. It will be another year before we do it and I don't think that's fair to those kids who are needing the review. People are concerned about the number of additions that are going to be needed to take care of this review. I'm very confident that those additions are going to be well trained and able to do that. I don't have any problem with that at all. You need to have some additional people in that department to do the reviews. But if we're going to go along and have even two or three hundred of these children not go through the review process, we are not doing for our citizens what I think we should. The legislation that's before you does