

concerns brought up in terms of the employees, what happens to transfer. So we said, okay, I started off with the deal thinking of the person or the people. There was objection to that, concerns about that, so we're going to move and change FTEs. There was concern that what happens if we eliminate some jobs in DSS. I called yesterday, right now in jobs that have a high FTEs that are vacant, in the pay range that we're talking about, there's 35 jobs in DSS that are available right now.

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR AVERY: So there are positions available if FTEs are deleted as the bill has said now. People will...should be able to move into those positions. We have tried to compromise. We have made changes in the bill. They're attacking that now. I oppose this bracket motion and think we need to get on and do the business and move 642 to Select File. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Avery. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, members, I'm not sure that I qualify for Mr. Put-off. I don't know if that was coming from Mr. Put-down, but (laughter) I thought...we were just having some fun here. I...I...we have talked to Senator Avery and he has been trying to talk through and work through the issue and I appreciate that. Senator Landis has as well. But, in retrospect, as we work through it, we continue to come up with questions and concerns about what we're doing here, to the point where...where, in my view, the comfort level ought to be to extend the issue onto next session. I know we're doing a lot of that this year but there's some reason for it. In this particular case, the committee was working through and coming to a consensus and the bill got pulled from us and the chance to achieve that was lost. And so, normally, I think you see bills coming out here that we try and have a little more to offer in terms of people coming together but we didn't have that opportunity. But Senator Day has worked a long time on this, chaired a study on it, and I would like to turn the rest of my time over to her as she can talk through some of the process we have put in to try and resolve this issue. So, if I could, I would defer to Senator Day.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Day, about four minutes.

SENATOR DAY: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Mr. Speaker, this has