

January 24, 1996 LB 642

changes, it's up to the Legislature and others along the way, some of it is federal, some of it's interpretation of federal law. They can't change what is currently going on out there no matter how many reviews they do. They advocate, they pointed out to us, but the fact that they are going to take over the total reviews will not solve a lot of the problems that we see in the process of placing children out of the home. It won't cure those ills. It won't change the reunification philosophy that we have in this state as far as children with their families.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time.

SENATOR HILLMAN: It won't change how the guardian ad litem works right now. They have done a good job in pointing out those inadequacies ..

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time, Senator.

SENATOR HILLMAN: I will push my light to continue this.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Hillman. Senator Schimek, followed by Senators Hartnett, Landis, Crosby, Wesely, Stuhr, Pedersen, and Hillman.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, Madam President, members of the body, I have lots of questions yet I'm afraid, and I don't know how I'm going to get to ask them all. But I would like to re-echo what Senator Hillman just said. I have some people in my district who are very active in the foster care review process and, and they have dedicated their lives not only to raising foster children, but to serving on this board. And I think what they do is absolutely outstanding and I don't think that we could ever, I don't think we could ever buy that kind of volunteerism. I don't think that we could ever pay people to do what they do. But having made that disclaimer, I still am having a lot of problems with this, and particularly since I'm trying to absorb it at the last minute here. But, Senator Avery, I'd like to go back to the review process and I, I'm really not asking you to respond, but I'd like to follow up on my conversation with Senator Warner. What we're doing here, as someone else said, I think Senator Wesely said, we're talking about a major shift here in responsibility. And as Senator Hillman pointed out, we're taking out one corner of that triangle of the review