

January 24, 1996 LB 642

I'll just take 30 seconds or maybe a minute. What the body needs to remember, how this bill is different, and I'm not getting into the debate on 642, but this bill is very substantially different in the one aspect of after the pilot projects, in most cases when we have a pilot project then we look at it, evaluate it, and see if we want to go further. In this bill, we have pilot projects and whether they're successful or not, we will go statewide in two years. So I want to emphasize that. In this bill, even though we have two pilot projects, whether or not they're successful or not, it automatically will go statewide in two years. And so if that is the case, obviously it is crucial that we have some type evaluation. If you're going to stop it because they are, have failed or it's not working, we have to propose legislation to do it. And I want to make sure that the body was clear of that aspect of the bill. Thank you, Senator Schimek.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you much, Senator Schimek. By the way, Senator Bernard-Stevens used less than one minute. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: I can't believe it (laughs), it's a record. Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I have passed out an amendment, which is basically structured on the amendment that was on page 410 and it was taken out by this amendment, it gets confusing. And it basically what this does is give it to the Health and Human Services Committee to do this review, but the more I think about it and the more I hear, the more I think it needs to be an outside independent review, and so I've asked Senator Wesely if he would help me draft such an amendment and I will be asking to substitute that. But, Senator Bernard-Stevens is exactly right, before he said it, it hadn't really sunk in even though I'd read the words. It says on January 1998, four full-time employees shall be added to the state board, it's it may be added or anything like that or after such review this could be the possibility. So he makes a very good point and I would...I got a lot more questions, but I think I'll just stop there for now because I'm sure the time's nearly over.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Schimek, you're finished? Thank you. Senator Stuhr.

SENATOR STUHR: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I really am confused now, but I am standing in support of the amendment and