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believe this will save any money for a period of time, and maybe it never will. But even if we're spending the same amount of money, at least let's get the services to the people, to where they only have to deal with one agency...one person and that person coordinates with all these other agencies. So I am totally in support of what you're trying to do with this bill, and I hope...hopefully, it will be passed.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Engel. Senator Wesely, followed by Senators Pedersen, Maurstad, Vrtiska and Beutler.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. I want to thank all of you who have made comments on the bill so far, and attempt to answer a few questions. First off, Senator Engel, I appreciated your comments. I know...I remember working with you on that issue and the problem, and your frustration is shared by most everybody who's ever served in the Legislature, as we try to meet the needs of our constituents and find a bureaucracy that is difficult to pull the pieces together of. That's exactly one of the frustrations I felt in my 18 years here in the Legislature, all of those on the Health and Human Services Committee, and now 12 of them as Chair. I've seen time and again where people of good will end up, because they're in different slots, in different categories, different agencies, cannot seem to bridge their differences and come together to address concerns. And it's with great pleasure that I was able to see this age...administration sit down, try and bring those agencies together, the directors cooperate and come forward with this proposal. So I hope that it will end some of that conflict that we've seen over the years. First off, though, I do want to reiterate Senator Crosby and Senator Preister both talked about employees and their involvement in the process. And I want to indicate to them that they're exactly right, that we need to involve employees. They're the front-line workers who know the problems of the system and can help us devise improvements to that system. I also want to acknowledge what Senator Crosby said about how much savings are involved in this. Obviously, we're going to attempt to save as much money as we reasonably can. At the same time I have, in the past, worked to recognize the understaffing that we've had, the huge caseloads that we've had and working with families. And part of the problems we have in meeting the needs of families in this state is we expect too much from our caseworkers, give them too many cases, too many families. And their inability to respond to those needs has