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LB 1135

SENATOR BYARS: You have assured me that you will work with me on making absolutely certain that we have definitive language to adequately comply with the federal regulations.

SENATOR BROWN: Yes.

SENATOR BYARS: Senator Brown's response positive also. With that, colleagues, I won't regale you with anymore dialogue on this, but I felt it was very important we made this part of the record as this is extremely important to people with disabilities and to the federal funding that we receive. Thank you very much.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Senator Byars. Next speaker is Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I will be brief. I just rise in support of the amendment. If you recall on General File, Senator Brown did visit with us about the fact that she would be introducing this amendment. It has been filed. And I am not terribly knowledgeable about this bill because it did not go through Government Committee, it went through Health and Human Services Committee, but the concept of it is excellent and I would...I, too, would like to see it adopted and if we need to massage it a bit between now and Final Reading that...that will be fine with me. I just have one question, Senator Brown, if I might, and...

SENATOR BROWN: Yes, Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: ...the question is, do you anticipate that Health and Human Services will be doing more of this in any other areas under their jurisdiction? I mean, do you have any knowledge of them looking at other commissions and boards under their department?

SENATOR BROWN: I think that they probably will at some point in the future. This was not initiated by Health and Human Services. This was initiated by me because I had served on both of these groups and had really...in the hearing I said that my testimony was going to sound like I was going to a 12-step program because (laugh) I had become convinced by virtue of