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LB 925

misread the body and there are 30 people committed to qual...to better benefits for quality child care, a darn good idea, terrific, I'll accept it...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...and support it and keep it on Select File and keep it on Final Reading and do my best to get the bill passed. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Landis. Senator Raikes, on AM2504.

SENATOR RAIKES: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor and members. I'd like to ask Senator Suttle a question or two, if I could.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Suttle.

SENATOR RAIKES: Senator Suttle, could you...currently, the bill requires licensing. Okay, and you're asking to have it...would include, I guess not require, accreditation. Can you explain to me what...what exactly is the difference? What would be the standard you'd have to meet under licensing and then how would that standard rise or change with accreditation?

SENATOR SUTTLE: The licensing is the bare minimum for running a day care facility. You just have to have a safe place and the number of children is a minimum and most of the things that occur in licensing are just the bare...just the minimum requirements.

SENATOR RAIKES: Okay, if I could interrupt you just a second at that point, if you go back to the early childhood research, I guess would be a way to describe it, would that research suggest that really all that's important is a safe place, in effect a warehouse that won't fall down, or in order to achieve desirable results with young children you need to do more than that?

SENATOR SUTTLE: I believe that you need to do more than that, Senator Raikes. That's the reason I brought the amendment. I think quality is of the utmost importance when it comes to child care. If you don't have the proper amount of nutrition, if you