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LB 925

LB 925 then? I hope you listened to Senator Jensen when he shared with you what we have done, both at the federal level and the state level, to help working parents, particularly single mothers where the burden falls the heaviest. And then you would ask yourself, why LB 925? Senator Landis has not grown cynical over time; I'm afraid that I have. And when I look at issues like this, I can understand the warmhearted, the warm fuzzy feeling that it gives us because we all want to do right. But I'm not so sure that all of the grinches in the world reside in the membership of the Revenue Committee. I think there are a few grinches yet in society and private business, in corporate America, that are trying to find edges wherever they can to turn a few more bucks,...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR COORDSEN: ...to keep the salaries down by providing an incentive that they not only recover the costs but recover more than the costs. I regrettably cannot support either the Suttle amendment nor the bill. It's no surprise, I think, to anyone. But I believe we ought to ask why this is to be in front of us when viewed from the perspective of all of what we are doing for working parents to assist in child care and fulfill what I believe to be a societal responsibility of ourself without rewarding individual businesses in that process. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Coordsen. Further debate, Senator Brown, followed by Senator Wickersham, Senator Landis.

SENATOR BROWN: Mr. President, members, back to the issue that I had been talking about in terms of quality. Senator Landis talked about the standards that we have in place being fairly minimal, and we do have much higher standards for many people who work with animals, who...much high...much lower standards...much higher standard than we have the people who care for our children, and the programs that we are licensing. He also said that few programs in the state are accredited and I think that he was alluding to the fact that a couple of the amendments deal with accreditation as a measure of quality. And, yes, Nebraska has few that are accredited, few programs that are accredited, but we are also the state that made the