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LB 925

incentive? Seems to me that might work just as well.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Wickersham. Senator Landis, on the Suttle amendment.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature. I had made a motion to call the question because it seemed to me the discussion had come back to LB 925 rather than the Suttle amendment, and we've got six other amendments and plenty of chance to talk. It's not like I'm shutting off debate on LB 925. We'll be here. So it's just that people asking questions were asking questions of me rather than Senator Suttle, which is the amendment that we have up here, about the base bill. So I am not trying to shut off debate. I am trying to save some...you know, let's...let's...if the amendment is the issue, fine, the debate ought to be on it, but it seems to be about LB 925, so I wanted to get on to that topic. As matter of fact, that's filled our debate both from Senator Coordsen, Senator Jensen, Senator Wickersham. The underlying bill seems to be what people are asking me about. Senator Wickersham has any number of reasons why he doesn't like the bill and every speech provides us with a new set of arguments against the bill. I agree that there should be a net cost amendment. I will circulate one that was drafted for me by John Cederberg and I intend to offer it on Select File. The quality agenda, the Suttle amendment, is a legitimate agenda. It's an appropriate agenda. It is an agenda that probably should have the same kind of thoughtful analysis that Senator Jensen said we should have about child care generally. It seems to me that quality child care, as an agenda, not just the provision of child care, but the provision of quality child care, is itself an agenda that needs to be done on its own as a way of moving us, as a society, towards a higher standard of child care. This would be a piece, but it's the only working piece at the moment. I'd suggest that we cut that linkage because LB 925, itself, is about capacity. If you listen to Senator Wickersham describe the deduction that business gets, the child care credit that individuals get, and the free child care credit that we provide in the state, I'd guess you'd probably say there is no child care problem in the state. With all those resources, I guess there's no problem. And I bet you hear about child care from your constituents. I bet they say, it's hard to find. I bet they say, it's way