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give these kids...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR JENSEN: ...as much love and compassion and care as we can. It was only hoped that relatives in some cases will do so and, again, the department is...wants to encourage them to always receive training. This just allows that approved, rather than to license, to actually receive some IV-E funds. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Jensen. Senator Stuthman.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chair and members of the body. I feel that it's very, very important that we try this process for a year or two to see, you know, how the kids that are placed with relatives turn out compared to the ones that are in the foster care facilities. It is, in my opinion, in my area, those that are involved in foster care for these wards of the state, they're in it for more or less a business, like I had said prior to this, and they do need the training because of all of the paperwork that has to be done. I really think that by allowing family members to do this, I think there's situations where families see that with just a little bit help that individual could be improved. So I really, really think that it's very important that we give this a try, and I would thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator. Senator Erdman.

SENATOR ERDMAN: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, continuing on with the discussion of actually how this works, the main difference that we're talking about here as far as what happens in the process is it's simply the same. The difference is that we can't access the federal funds to do that. Right now, if you're a foster parent in the state of Nebraska and you have this training, a kid could be dropped off at your house at two o'clock in the morning. You've never met this kid before. You don't know who he is, but you believe that it's your responsibility and you have agreed to the training, you've agreed to the requirements to be able to provide this young person with a great home, and that's the goal. So right now,