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that have been made in the system. We have 25 years' worth of information from the Foster Care Review Board. We have an N-FOCUS computer data system. We have countless studies. I cannot responsibly support funding for yet another study knowing how little has actually been utilized from the studies that have been done. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Howard. Heard the opening on AM2836. Open for discussion. Senator Brown, followed by Senator Don Pederson and others.

SENATOR BROWN: Mr. President, members, I am, I guess, taking the place of Senator Thompson, who was the proponent of this study in the appropriations process, and she has conveyed to me some of the differences. And Senator Thompson and I, at one time, figured that between the two of us we had been on nearly every children's task force that had taken place in the last 25 years. And I appreciate Senator Howard's perspective about we need action, not more studies, but I think that there's something that's a little bit different about this process from the standpoint of what the Governor may do. Because the studies that have taken place in the past, including the ones that Senator Thompson and I have participated in, have had a lot of people talking about what were the good ideas that hopefully would protect children or make children that...our approach to children better. But we have had these concepts, but not necessarily a systems approach to how to accomplish the concepts. We've gone from a study on the number of placements of children under the age of three in foster care, and that number, and this has been some 15 years ago, that number was something like 15 different placements in foster care for children who are under the age of three. What...we went through the Family Policy Act, which was the idea that we automatically go towards reunification of families, and so what that did was to set an agenda for not looking at the long-term; you know, if it was necessary, having these children removed from their families and placed in adoptive situations so that they could have a consistent life if the family could not be brought to a position where they could be reunified. But what we're talking about in this study is a business kind of model, a systemic study about not just what we need to do with children, but what