

February 14, 1995 LB 401

authorization for those rules and regs. And then finally, the primary part of the bill that raised any concern and led to the opposition of Jim Cunningham was the establishment of rules and regulations regarding preschools operated by private schools. And so this committee amendment takes that out of the bill and does not allow for standards to be put in place for preschools and school age programs that are operated by private schools. With that, I'd be happy to answer your questions and ask your support for the committee amendments.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Is there any discussion of the committee amendments? Seeing none, Senator Wesely, do you wish to close? Closing is waived. The question before the body is the adoption of the committee amendments to LB 401. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? Have you all voted? Please record.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays on the adoption of committee amendments.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The committee amendments are adopted. Senator Wesely is recognized to open on LB 401.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Madam President, members. LB 401 is a follow-up to legislation we passed in 1991, LB 836, that made some major changes in child care regulation in the State of Nebraska. This bill, LB 401, is not a major change. It is, in my view, more or less a clean up, based on the experience we've had since the passage of the bill we passed in 1991. So, for instance, among the changes in the bill is the terminology that we've had in the statute, just tried to be more consistent, foster care currently isn't defined as foster care, but it's called child care, and obviously foster care isn't child care. And so terminology has tried to be more consistent to the way we would identify what foster care is, what child care is, things like that. We tried... that's really one of the major things. Then we talk about the coordinating commission that we established in '91 and trying to clarify a little bit about the staffing of that, and again back to the chairmanship issue and the fact that the departments will make recommendations, the Governor will select, and so we deal with that issue that's been of some concern. We look at the block grant that's been in place, and again the commission's role in that and the desire for them to be included in that process. We talk about an annual report that once was required from two different entities