

deal of discussion in recent years dealing with foster care review and how we just don't...or we have the foster care review system because a lot of children get lost in the system. Foster children get lost because they don't get adequate reviews or they don't get timely reviews. Sometimes they will get lost in their...from what I understand, people told me for years, they didn't have adequate review and as a result we didn't know where these foster children were. Now, that is part of the responsibility of the juvenile court system in Douglas, Sarpy and Lancaster County and just because they are overworked I don't feel that this is the time, because they are overworked this is not the time to be cutting out an additional judge which is needed. Now, this particular amendment, let's clarify this what exactly and the whole parameters of the juvenile court system in Nebraska, what exactly the Senator Johnson amendment does and how it fits in with the juvenile court system. Now, there may not be this year enough money for an additional juvenile court judge, but that doesn't mean that one is not needed. If the juvenile court judge is, in fact, overworked and isn't able to handle the caseload...

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR ABBOD: ...we do have adequate recourse in the law at the present time. And, as pointed out in the amendment, the language in the amendment, it does allow for the appointment of district court judges to review these cases. So at the present time if the Supreme Court feels that because of whatever particular reason, as it is right now, because of a disability or disqualification, or whatever, for whatever reason, they can appoint a district court judge to fill in for the juvenile court judge system. I feel that we do have adequate recourse at this time, but if you do adopt this amendment, I think you should understand that you are essentially saying we are doing away with a juvenile court system in the State of Nebraska. My belief is we should have juvenile court systems throughout the State of Nebraska because I think there is a distinct difference when a child goes before a juvenile court judge and one that deals strictly with adults. I think it is important that we pay attention to the needs of the children in the State of Nebraska and by adopting this amendment we will, in fact, be saying that we don't care about child abuse in the State of Nebraska, we don't care about the children in the State of