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the phrase that I think constitutes very poor drafting, if nothing else, because I, for one, cannot imagine what that means. And then it goes on to say, which are not in compliance with this section. So it seems to me that that sentence needs to read the Title IV-D Division may withhold IV-D funds otherwise payable to counties which are not in compliance...which are not in compliance with this section. I take it the intent is that if those counties don't finally get on the JUSTICE system, and I'm assuming that the Legislature, in drafting this provision, is assuming that it's their fault if they're not on the system, I'm not sure that's always the case. But one of the things that's interesting about this provision I think is that the funds that would be withheld, upon failure of the clerks of the district court to comply, would be funds that would not only go to the clerk of the district court's office but to the county attorney's office, for example, and perhaps to other offices. And, yet, the county attorney and the county commissioners themselves don't really have the power to force the clerks of the district court to comply because the clerks of the district court, as you know, right now are elected officials, and it's somewhat of an anomaly to make a rule or to suggest a directive from the district courts to utilize that system when the judges themselves, although they have great personal authority, are respected by the clerks of the district court, the judges themselves cannot command the clerks of the district court because they are separate elected county officials. So in a...in a strict legal sense, I don't think that the district courts, the district courts aren't the ones utilizing it and I'm not sure they can direct the utilization. Not only is that line of authority somewhat unclear, but the clerks of the district court are not even state employees. The clerks of the district court and everybody who work for them...everyone who works for them are employees of the county.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: And so you have the anomaly that we're trying to deal with elected officials who are not state employees, as are the judges and the other...most other portions of the JUSTICE system, and yet we're trying to make them conform to this now statewide system that's going to be run by the state with state employees, and that's one of the reasons I want to