

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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FLOOR DEBATE

April 18, 2001 LB 598

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD PRESIDING

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Thompson. (Visitor introduced.) For debate on the motion to reconsider AM1568, Senator Bromm.

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, Mr. President. I wanted to make a couple of comments. I didn't support the amendment, and I won't support the reconsideration. But one thing that I just wanted to at least make clear from my reading of the bill, that I think maybe isn't being emphasized enough, in response to Senator Thompson's concerns, and that is that under the law as it is now, and under the law as it will be under LB 598, the court continues to maintain jurisdiction over the juvenile from the time the juvenile is committed to the Office of Juvenile Services, until the time the juvenile is discharged from the Office of Juvenile Services. Now by maintaining jurisdiction, that means the court can make various orders, or findings, or requests, or demands. And I don't think that we can take that power away from the court. And LB 598 doesn't take it away from the court. And if there are problems and concerns, as Senator Thompson is indicating, the court does maintain jurisdiction over that juvenile. Now, the law goes on to say when the court shall conduct hearings, but it doesn't say that the court can't conduct hearings at an earlier time. Don't we still have CASA workers tracking kids? Senator Thompson, would you yield to a question or two?

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Thompson.

SENATOR THOMPSON: Yes.

SENATOR BROMM: Senator Thompson, first of all, am I not correct that under the green copy of the bill and your amendment, that the court maintains jurisdiction over that juvenile, until that juvenile is discharged from the system?

SENATOR THOMPSON: The concern that was given to me is that...may I go? Okay. The concern that was raised to me by judges, several months ago when we first started looking at this bill, was that the actual placement, placement decisions,