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LB 116, 444

was something that we would deem appropriate, I guess, as a body. I'm offering AM1776 in cooperation with the State Treasurer's Office. Last night we brought a committee amendment version of LB 444, Senator Jensen's bill, into LB 116. That language deals with an issue that has become pretty important to the State Treasurer who is responsible for collecting and disbursing the child support, what is called the State Disbursement Unit. At the present time, an individual paying his or her child support is allowed to provide two bad checks within one year...within a one-year period to the State Disbursement Unit before the Treasurer's Office requires that person to pay their child support by a money order, cashier's check or certified check, is also called...which is also called good money. AM1776 simply extends this time period for giving those two bad checks for child support payments from one year to two years. Now there was some discussion in committee about this type of issue, and it seemed to be...it seemed to be something that made sense to me; hence this amendment. Those who aren't comfortable with going, I guess, to a one-strike rule, still get what they want in this amendment. And the State Treasurer gets a tool here by expanding the window from one year to two years. And all we're doing is forcing that good money effort, I guess, which would be a certified check or, like we said, a cashier's check, money order. It helps them limit and manage the number of bad checks that are submitted...or, the bad debt. The State Treasurer is being a realist here. I think we are...I think I am, too, and I think the committee was. The Treasurer's Office understands, I think, that we aren't going to a one-strike rule this year, being proactive, in a way, and doing what I think the Treasurer's Office feels is necessary to limit the amount of bad debt that our state incurs. So with that, I would be happy to answer any questions that I can. I would ask for your consideration on this matter in the adoption of AM1776. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Friend. You've heard the opening on AM1776, offered by Senator Friend. Open for discussion. Senator Bourne...I'm sorry, your light went off. Further discussion? Seeing no lights on, Senator Friend, you're recognized to close. Senator Friend waives closing. The question before the body is, shall AM1776, offered by Senator