

tightening of the child support laws than any other member of this Legislature, and I can tell you very frankly that when a woman goes into court she is not equal...she is not equal. Male judges, male lawyers, male dominance of the court...

PRESIDENT: One minute, Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...works to the detriment of the women. All other obligations aside, check the child support laws, check the money that is owed to women on child support and if that doesn't convince you that a woman does not have equity in our courts, then you are more dense than I think you are. I can cite millions and millions of dollars owed to women that will never be paid because male judges and male lawyers say, well, he hasn't got the resources, we can't put him in jail because he can't pay. Let me tell you this, in the courts...in the courts today the woman is not equal. In the courts today under LB 306 even with the Beutler amendment or the...yes, the Beutler amendment, women will not be equal, and some of us in this body will, no doubt, at some time leave a wife some resources and stop and think about it just a little while, because you may find your members of your own family facing the same kind of dilemma and I don't think we want to be in that situation. Let them sign the document. Let them know what is going on. Everyone does business above board, and that I think is the time honored tradition of conducting business. The element of surprise should not be with the woman.

PRESIDENT: Mr. Clerk, you have an announcement.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Newell would like to have the Miscellaneous Subjects Committee meet underneath the north balcony for a brief Executive Session.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, this is a complex bill and Senator Beutler offered an amendment which I would like to ask him a couple of questions about, because I am not the expert on property matters that he is obviously is.

PRESIDENT: Senator Beutler, will you respond?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Beutler, with your amendment you mean that this bill deals now only with debts that are contracted for in writing. If it is not in a written contract, it is not a debt subject to this bill. Isn't that correct with your amendment?