

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Cullan.

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I agree with Senator Schmit to a large extent. I think that this is probably not a wise provision of one which the State of Nebraska would enact were this an area that we had complete discretion in. There are probably many other areas where the State of Nebraska unfortunately follows the mandates of the federal government or faces the loss of federal funds. One that comes quickly to mind I think is Certificate of Need. I doubt that the State of Nebraska would have ever passed that kind of a program but for the requirements of the federal government. But we did it then and I think this is a case where we are going to have to do it again. I agree with Senator Schmit again that the child support laws of the State of Nebraska which were adopted under his leadership should be enforced with all the vigor and all the evenhandedness that we can possibly muster in the State of Nebraska, and I would hope that we would have much more aggressive enforcement of the laws which this Legislature passes and means and intends to be enforced. And so I hope that that is something that will be accomplished much more aggressively. From a practical standpoint, I believe that those laws can be enforced better if the State of Nebraska has \$1.6 million from the federal government to subsidize the operation of the county attorneys' offices throughout the State of Nebraska to work on child support, to ensure the kind of enforcement of the laws that Senator Schmit is requesting today. And I agree that if these laws had been enforced as they should be, we probably wouldn't have the problem that we do have. But, again, I would urge you to vote against Senator Schmit's request to strike this amendment. I think that the alternative is to lose the \$1.6 million in aid to the counties...the county attorneys' offices that we do believe we need. So I would urge you to reject Senator Schmit's amendment.

PRESIDENT: Mr. Clerk, do I understand....Senator Schmit, you are going to withdraw and substitute....Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Yes, Mr. President, I have asked permission to withdraw the first amendment and substitute the correct amendment which is the one the Clerk now has.

PRESIDENT: All right, you are....

SENATOR SCHMIT: The arguments are the same, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT:requesting withdrawal of the original amendment