

amendment. It was originally a bill sponsored by Senator Smith. I was one of the co-sponsors. I believe it addresses a couple of areas in the law that are appropriate for us to make changes in, regardless of whether or not we would be expressly required to do that by any sort of federal mandate. Standing on their own, I believe, the provisions of the amendment have merit in that they give direction to the clerk's of the district court in various aspects of child support collection, how to account for it, how interest is to be credited and computed, so forth. In addition, it gives county attorneys express authority in areas where they have now been working without necessarily express authority, but been able to...but have been able to do the job. It seems that the only problem with this bill, as originally introduced, was the fiscal note, that has now been reduced. And I believe we ought to incorporate the amendment into 457. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you Senator Wickersham. Is there anyone else who wishes to speak to this amendment? Seeing none, do you have closing, Senator Smith?

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Madam President. I move that...with the help of Senator Wickersham we have adequately explained what was originally LB 527, and is now AM1178, will do. We think it's very important. I would remind you that for three years DSS has been trying to do this. We have a federal regulation that says they must be doing this. And what we're doing is just saying that if we don't do something we're going to have a sanction, and the sanction in the amount of 1 percent the first year will amount to \$367,000, in the second year to 735,000, and by the third year, 1.8 million dollars lost to the state. By adding the word medical we believe, at least we're hopeful that we're going to be able to...the feds will overlook the fact that we haven't moved that far forward, but at least we've taken a step, and our intent is good. So, with that, we'd ask for your support in this amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Smith. We will now vote on the Smith amendment. All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Madam President, on adoption of Senator Smith's amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: The amendment is adopted. Now I will recognize