

senators wishing to speak to the main bill. Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Madam President and members of the Legislature, I rise to support the bill, also support the committee amendment and Senator Smith's amendment. I think it's high time that we crack down on some of these violators. I've had a number of constituents call me from time to time, and these people with children can't...are not able to get any child support. I do have a question for Senator Schellpeper, if he'll yield.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Yes, Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Senator Schellpeper, I notice in the committee statement that there were a number of opponents to the bill. Could you just briefly explain what their opposition to this bill was.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Well I think, Senator Hefner, some of those opponents came about because they are the custodial parent. And also some of them are...not custodial, they're having to pay the fee or the...what you have to pay when you are divorced. And also some of them think that we should be more into looking at the visitation rights instead of being on to the actual how much each one of these here children receive. But most of them were just worried about that when you come in and you garnish a persons wages for this child, that you're getting into their funds that they don't think should go to there. But we have to think about the child first.

SENATOR HEFNER: Okay, thank you, Senator Schellpeper. I have another question, too. I had one constituent call me and I've been working with her on this. And her former husband moved out of the state. Now will this law help us collect those child support payments?

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Yes, it will. And that's where it will really help a lot, because when a person leaves the state they're real hard to locate. And with this bill we'll be able to have their social security number, and you'll be able to have their wages garnished.

SENATOR HEFNER: Thanks, Senator Schellpeper. That certainly is good, because I know I've been working with this one constituent. And I want to thank the Attorney General's Office, and I want to thank the Department of Social Services, because