

make. The references made as to whether or not a noncustodial parent should petition for a lower child support payment if their circumstances were deemed to be such that they could not pay the present level of child support. One of the points that I have made hundreds if not thousands of times in the last 20 years or so that we've talked about this is when someone doesn't pay child support, if it's \$400 a month or \$40 a month, it's always amazing to me, and I have had every alibi you can think of, I could write a book if I just took those letters and those complaints together as to why someone can't pay child support. And the point I want to make is this, the one thing that no one ever answers, no judge has answered, no clerk of the court has answered, no county attorney has answered, no social service worker has answered is, if the support is not paid, how do the children live, how do the children live? I've asked the question a thousand times, never get a satisfactory answer. I've had someone come in, I just lost my job and my payments on my 1991 Lincoln are overdue and the payments on my \$300,000 house are overdue, but I can't take care of my child support. I had a bill one time, Senator, which I thought justified being passed. The bill would have prevented anyone from remarrying if it would have jeopardized their child support payments. Former Senator Roland Luedtke about came off the wall and he lambasted me in the manner which he can do, but I made a point. I said if I want to buy an automobile and at that time I was getting \$400 a month on this floor and the payments are \$200 a month, obviously the bank is not going to loan me money to buy an automobile.

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Forgetting all the other aspects of marriage and divorce et cetera, I said why should you then allow someone to enter into a contract knowing that the completion of that contract will jeopardize an existing commitment to children? Ladies and gentlemen, no answer. We have, over the years, consistently insisted upon placing in the statute rules, regulations, et cetera, et cetera, passing into law bills that all of us try to make tougher but we never, ever enforce them. I would suggest, Senator Beutler, no discredit to you whatsoever because I know it's not your responsibility, I would suggest that there is no way that we can enforce LB 715 unless, Senator Moore is not here, Senator Lowell Johnson is here, the Appropriations Committee is willing to shell out an awful lot more money. The existing people are not going to be able...