

SENATOR DAY: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Madam President, members, I think that most records show if visitation is there, child support is paid better. So I mean I think on that basis I can answer that question. How it will work in this situation, I'm not sure. I would tell you if I had my druthers we would have left the mandatory mediation in this bill. That was pulled out with the Judiciary Committee, and at the late date of the session and the major bills that we have coming up, I know it would create some concern and there are some on the floor that are very much opposed to that, so I will not try and put it back into the bill this year. However, I will be bringing it back because in states where they have this, time and time again it's proven that it's worked to the benefit of the parents and to the benefit of the children. So if I can wave my magic wand and solve the problem, that's how I think I would solve it, but it will not be something we deal with this year. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you. Senator Dierks, your light is next, followed by Senators Wehrbein, Crosby, Bohlke, Chambers, Beutler and Day.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Madam President, and members of the body. I still have grave concerns about the jerking of professional licenses. I...I even question, I guess, in my own mind the constitutionality of that. But the thing I have to get back to is the responsibility of the courts and how they may have failed us on this issue because I think there's where the responsibility is currently and it's not being taken care of. I have a number of noncustodial fathers in my district who have come to me with severe complaints about not being able to visit their children, so I think that I am in favor of what you're doing on that score, Senator Day. But I know, too, of too many people who have had decisions made by the courts where the onus is pretty severe on the part of the noncustodial parent as far as child support was concerned. And I wonder sometimes if we shouldn't be looking at that in the courts to give the judges some guidance as to where we want...where they ought to be going with this sort of thing. You know, I think they can be too severe and I think sometimes they have been and yet there doesn't seem to be any recourse. It seems like once a decision is made it's made and you can't get back and have it redone. So I wonder if there isn't some other things we could do besides this business of jerking people's licenses that...and I understand that several people have told me, well, yes, when you