

amendment, rather than the child support aspect of the bill, in a situation where children in the family were not allowed to see the father, it might even be that the children choose not to see the father, I'm not sure exactly, could be different circumstances, but there seems to be visitation interference. With your amendment, could you walk me through the procedure and what would actually happen?

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Day.

SENATOR DAY: Thank you, Senator Preister. I'll walk you through the process beginning in January of '97, because currently we aren't changing too much of that, only using license revocation as another tool for the judge. So there aren't any immediate changes with that. But putting it in an administrative procedure under the courts in '97 what would happen would be an individual who felt they had visitation interference, and this is court-ordered visitation, they have said they will see their children every other weekend and the custodial parent has said, no, I'm taking the children here this weekend and that has happened repeatedly. They will have to fill out a form which will be developed by the Supreme Court that's available from the district...the Clerk of the District Courts, and an affidavit explaining the visitation interference. When that happens, the courts will assign it to a child support and visitation referee, what they will be called at that stage, where they will hold a hearing just as if it was in court. They will do the research on it. They will transcribe everything that happens. They will listen to all parties involved and make sure the parties are aware to come to the hearing. And, at the end of the hearing, they will say this is what we think should happen. Now if either party doesn't agree with that, they still have the option of going to District Court and going before a judge with this situation, but, hopefully, bringing the two parties into the room with the child support and visitation referee they will be able to come to an agreement.

SENATOR PREISTER: It would be, if I could use the analogy, a kind of modified version of mediation.

SENATOR DAY: Yes, very modified.

SENATOR PREISTER: Okay, thank you, Senator Day. This issue in the custodial versus noncustodial parents and the concern of the children is one that is certainly disturbing to me. And, as I