

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. We are on LB 592, and we are discussing the Lindsay amendment. Senator Beutler, your light is first.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Madam President, members of the Legislature, just to remind you where we are, we are on the Lindsay amendment, which is advocating taking all of the child support functions currently performed by DSS and changing them over to the court system, and I, again, would repeat that I hope you are viewing this as an object lesson from Senator Lindsay and not as a serious amendment to this particular bill. What Senator Lindsay has just done is give you a litany of reasons of why the Department of Social Services should not be involved, and yet that was precisely what the Judiciary Committee amendment suggested with respect to visitation. That that very agency should be the one dealing with visitation. But since that was rejected, Senator Lindsay is coming around an turning it on its head and saying, well, if visitation can't be with DSS, the same as child support, then let's bring child support over to the court system and eliminate all functions in DSS. And as we discussed earlier, that's simply not a politically practical thing to do at this point in time because of the establishment of the services there because of questions with regard to state and federal funds and whether those would be available if we changed the mechanisms involved. A whole...a whole handful of questions exist if we should do that as a serious matter, so attaching this amendment is politically tantamount to killing the bill, and I am sure that Senator Lindsay recognizes that. But he is asking you to look seriously at the question of how all this should be done, which I think is a good question, but not the question for this particular moment in time on this particular bill. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. Senator Day.

SENATOR DAY: Thank you, Madam President and colleagues. I rise, again, in opposition to this amendment and I will say once more, I am more than willing to put something in the legislation that we would study the option, but this is just too big of a change to try and do with the debate on the floor without looking into it. Going over briefly, over the lunch hour, some of the problems that came up without being able to really study it, and maybe these are problems we could handle, but they aren't handled now and it would take more. First of all, the