

court administrator sets the guidelines for child support. The more money we get in child support, the more federal funds we get. So it concerns me that the same agency that sets the guidelines for the amount of the money would be the one that would be getting the federal funds. You also need to know that in IV-D services in the Department of Social Services we have over 300 employees. Those are 300 employees that would have to be fired, be rehired, something to disrupt the lives of 300 employees. We are also working on computerizing the child support payments, and the department has been working on this, and there is a major investment in computer systems within the department to meet the federal guidelines. I am not sure whether it's an investment that could be moved over or if we would lose that investment. Also, to the best of our knowledge, there is no other state that designates the judicial branch as the IV-D agency. There is some real questions as to whether this would be constitutional or not. One of the things within the bill, within the amendment, again, just in glancing over it, is with income withholding, says it is administrated by the court. Well, federal guidelines says it has to be an administrative process, and we would be out of compliance immediately if this has to go back to the court. It is interesting to know that the way the amendment is that the courts would be the IV-D agency, but DSS would still be required to collect money, if someone wanted to become a IV-D client. Another problem is in there is some rights are assigned. According to federal requirements, rights are to be assigned to the state, and this reads that it has been assigned to the county attorney or the authorized attorney, probably should be the courts again with questions on whether we would be in compliance with the federal regs. And another thing to be concerned about is right now the Department of Social Services has a contract with Douglas County on child support. What happens to this contract? Again, these are things that we may be able to deal with, but I don't think we can deal with them in this short a time, and I would, again, say to Senator Lindsay, I am more than willing to put something in the legislation where we study this and see if it would be more effective, to see if we could do it, but I certainly do not believe this is the time to adopt this amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Day. Senator Lindsay.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Thank you, Madam President and members. We just did it this morning, did a major change. We just moved