

We know that the poverty level has gone up for our children, and this would be one thing that we could do to help correct that problem. The main reason I stand against the bracket motion is we really haven't even gotten to the meat of this bill yet. We haven't really had the discussion about the child support portion of it at all, and I don't really think it is fair to bracket the bill until people have heard that portion. I...I am hopeful, I know this bill is something that Senator Day has worked very hard on, and I am hopeful that if we don't...if we don't get it clear across this session, that we at least have a discussion that is complete enough that we can give both Senator Day and others who are interested in this area and have been working on this bill some direction as to what it will take to get the bill in shape. I think that if we get to the meat of the bill that we will find that the bill is in shape and that it should be passed, but we haven't gotten to that point yet, so I would ask you simply not to vote for the bracket motion.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Senator Pedersen, on the bracket motion.

SENATOR PEDERSEN: Senator Crosby, members of the Legislature, I wasn't going to speak on this, because from time to time with some of the people that I work with, I want to make sure that there is anonymity needs to be done, but there's...first of all, I need to mention that I was at that meeting in the Governor's Office with Senator Lindsay and the Judiciary Committee and I do not believe that Senator Day is taking that wrong at all. I do believe that what she heard is different than what I heard, and it was my understanding that they were going to leave that amendment on there. In the field that I work in, I work with lots of people, both from indigent people to some that have money, and I know there is two real concerns here. I have got a client right now who happens to be female who cannot see her child because the father holds visitation from her, and she pays child support. I believe that the child support does have to be tied in with this bill, I mean the visitation has to be tied in with the child support, and I don't know about the Supreme Court's feeling on it whatsoever. I also know that 50...I know that a conservative one would be at least 50 percent of the people, young people we have on welfare in this state, are due child support. I also know a professional, who if you take his license away for not paying child support, he will go on welfare, and we are going to pay twice as much. We aren't going to gain anything. We are going to lose. So this is a difficult