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PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time. Thank you, Senator Bernard-Stevens. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. I'd rise in support of LB 592 and indicate that this was part of the ongoing work that we did on welfare reform. We started the work, you know, two years ago, did an interim study, passed some legislation last year that included both welfare reform and child support reform and made some major progress. In follow-up to that an additional study group was formed, the Governor's round table, which resulted in the introduction of LB 592. This is a very controversial concept and I know there is a lot of opposition to it, but it's in the fact that in the states that have adopted it, and very infrequently is it utilized to take somebody's license away because on the face of it, this whole bill is illogical. If the idea is to get individuals that are required to provide child support, to pay for child support and you take away their driver's license or their professional license and they're not able to earn income, they are not obviously able then to provide income diverted over to pay child support. So obviously in the end, if you actually implement the bill, you're at cross purposes with its intent, but the idea is that concern is so great that child support be paid that that sort of threat is strong enough to inspire, if not scare, individuals in performing up to the requirements of the court and paying their child support. So my hope is that ultimately when the bill is passed and implemented it will actually be used very little in terms of its implementation and actually taking away licenses and this is something we need to be very careful about. But the primary reason I rise besides to express that point of view, is that I've had a number of discussions with fathers who are expressing great concern about visitation rights and the balance that needs to be there in any discussion about child support with visitation rights. When we looked at this issue last year we did a little bit of that and became for the first time in my view, sensitized to the desires and concerns of fathers involved in these child custody, child support cases. They have only recently been organized and I want to tip my hat to them and encourage them to continue their efforts to try and educate us about that perspective because frankly there has been a very strong organization and outspokenness on the part of mothers not receiving child support and deservedly so. If they are due money and are trying to raise a child, they need to have child