

support, but there is another side to the coin that is starting to become much more recognized by many of us in the Legislature that the fathers involved have some rights as well, that they need to be able to know the whereabouts of their children, have the chance to visit and nurture their children though they are not directly the caregiver for that child and it seems to me that those who have raised concerns about the balance in this bill are probably right, that the bill doesn't have as extensive a look at the concerns of the fathers involved, but that look can occur in the future just as this bill followed last year's bill. And my hope is with Senator Day and others that we will continue to examine the issue of visitation rights and I know Senator Lindsay has some amendments. Maybe we'll still do that this session, but I think raising the issue and making that point has been valuable for many of us who were not aware of the concerns that were being expressed and my hope is that again we keep that in mind in the future, whether it be near or far, try to recognize that the fathers involved have some concerns that are legitimate as well. Thank you very much.

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

SENATOR BOHLKE: Madam President, members, as I understand it, and as I have talked to noncustodial parents and met with someone this weekend, the concern for those people who have made timely payments is not with this bill. It goes more to the problems with visitation rights that I think that we've alluded to and discussed on the floor. But for those noncustodial parents who have made their payments and are on time and feel a commitment to being on time, they do not object to this bill. It seems that we have a couple of different dialogues and arguments going and the real central issue seems to be around visitation rights and for those of us who were here when Senator Ashford introduced his mandatory mediation and I remember having great reservations about that, but after talking with a noncustodial parent this weekend I was not so sure that that wouldn't solve a lot of the other issues other than and apart from being late on child support payments. This noncustodial parent had gone to court to just get the mother to meet him halfway on weekend visits, to drive halfway. That seemed reasonable to me. The only problem now with the visitation rights if what we've done with this bill is that now the license could be revoked if she interferes. The problem would be now if she doesn't want to drive that halfway distance which she has