

the experience to prepare better for the future and not, I think, stopping an effort that we need to move forward on in order to take our place in line and to take advantage of the federal funds that are due to the State of Nebraska. So I understand Senator Beutler is going to withdraw his amendment and others will be offered but it seems to me that these are the approaches we need to take to constructively move forward on the issue. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Senator Brashear.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Madam President, members of the Legislature, I rise in support of Senator Beutler's amendment to the amendment or something like it. I think that we're headed in the right direction in terms of policy. Senator Chambers has I believe correctly brought before us the issue of how, when, where, under what circumstances and for what kind of a contingency do agencies and departments of the State of Nebraska enter into contingent fee agreements. Where I part company with him is that he would make such agreements void in all instances in LB 519. Senator Beutler with his amendment to the amendment is moving us in the direction of recognizing our duty and responsibility and exercising our prerogatives legislatively in terms of establishing the policy when we will enter into contingent fee agreements, but he's also improving the procedure by which we'll do it. It seems to me that it is legitimate to be focusing on the Governor as the highest elected executive official of this state as the person empowered to execute the contract to enter into the agreement and to stand accountable for it at the next election. I do think that the record before us should accurately reflect the facts and with all due respect to Senator Chambers' amendment, our earlier colloquy did not satisfy my curiosity with regard to the statement which he would have us adopt as a legislative finding that no state department or agency ever executed a contingent fee contract on behalf of the state. In the period of but a few short minutes I have been advised that the State Department of Social Services has entered into a contingent fee contract with Policy Studies Institute in Omaha, Nebraska by which they pay a contingent fee of 12.5 percent, 14 percent which is declining every year for the collection of delinquent child support. Now I'd suggest to Senator Chambers and to the members of the Legislature that paying a contingent fee for the collection of delinquent child support, that which has not been paid where you are paying in response to the result, the very desirable result achieved is a