

January 19, 1996 LB 592

with the thought that I would be leaning a lot more favorably toward the bill if that happens. Thank you.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN PRESIDING

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you. Senator Dierks. Senator Bohlke.

SENATOR BOHLKE: On the bill.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you. Next, Senator Crosby. I'm sorry, Senator Crosby, did you yield your time to Senator Beutler? Thank you. She yields her five minutes to you, Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Kristensen, members of the Legislature, I did not have an opportunity, on the first occasion, to talk about the Witek amendment. However, the Witek amendment I, of necessity, have to oppose vigorously because in the end I think it will result in no good whatsoever. And all of the effort that has been made to bring groups together on one plan, all of the effort that has been made to scan the efforts of all the states and to find out what plans are constitutional and what plans actually work will be chucked aside and we will go back to a scheme that nobody knows about that relies upon court contempt powers. Now the whole problem with child support at the very beginning of time was that court contempt powers didn't work. I mean this is going back to 1980. It used to be that we relied upon court contempt powers in order to enforce child support in the first instance. Do you remember that, historically? That's where it all, that's when the whole child support movement started...started. Back at that point in time you relied upon court contempt powers. Well, it didn't work, for a whole number of reasons, including the fact that judges really don't want to be involved in an intimate and deep way, and have all their time consumed with family, custodial and support matters. They think they have other things to do, and more important things to do. And I don't know if they have more important things to do, but they certainly have other things to do. And the process simply didn't work based upon contempt powers. And this suggestion that we expand the process that historically we know doesn't work, to include revocation of drivers' licenses, is, in my opinion, a fantasy. That's all there is to be said about it. It's a fantasy to think that this would work. Everybody is afraid that so many licenses are going

10092