

both alimony and child support, as you know for various reasons, including tax reasons, sometimes one or the other, child support or alimony, will be increased or decreased. But the court system and society, through the Legislature, treats that situation essentially as if it were all child support. Now, if Senator Cudaback didn't have any children and was divorced and there was alimony, that alimony would not be subject to this bill.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Right.

SENATOR BEUTLER: But insofar as it's defined as spousal support, which is...

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Whenever they're...

SENATOR BEUTLER: ..what you had defined,...

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Okay, and that's a good point,...

SENATOR BEUTLER: (Inaudible remark.)

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: ..and I appreciate making sure I was clear on that, as well, because it is a little more than child support, although the alimony comes into part of this. What we're really talking about is enforcing the order of a district court. And to the extent that the court enters an order saying you shall pay X amount of dollars as child support, that's like any other order of the district court, it becomes a lien or a judgment, if you own real estate. If you want to sell your house or rental property, whatever, that lien for child support has attached and you have to get it released. But what really occurs here is, how do you enforce the order of the court? And you don't want to have every dispute go back to the judges. But part of the reason is that there is some frustration, when you go back for contempt powers to collect child support, is that the judge, she hears both sides. She hears why they can't pay. She hears the other reasons of why they should pay. And that judge, she's placed in that terrible position of saying, how do I get blood out of a turnip? And thus you'll see all these various stories about I went back to court ten times and I didn't get my money. Talk to your district judges, they're the ones that sit there day in and day out and listen to all the various reasons. And I may take a little issue with Senator