

Lincoln, they are all in the north balcony. Will you stand and be recognized, please. Welcome to the Legislature. Senator Bromm, to speak to the Chambers amendment to the Witek amendment to LB 592.

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, Madam President, and colleagues. I haven't spoken yet on this bill very much this year and I wanted to get on record on a couple of things. I oppose the proposed amendment regarding with...regarding the cause of action if a license has been suspended erroneously primarily because that is very broad language and erroneous can mean a lot of things. I would point out that if a license has been revoked willfully, maliciously, or negligently that might be a different standard than erroneously. There are mistakes that can happen, I think it would be rare. But you are dealing with a volume of child support collections that is staggering and getting more and more staggering every year. And, to have the word "erroneously" as a standard for bringing a cause of action against those who are trying to enforce the law, I think that is just bad legislation. If you want to take the time to draft a good standard for cause of action, then take the time to do that, those that think that is necessary. But, I don't think that just saying you have a cause of action of a license that has been suspended erroneously is a good standard at all. It is not good language, it is not good legislation and I would urge you not to adopt that amendment. Beyond that, in this area of child support, having been in the county attorney's office where you try to enforce this sort of thing, I can tell you we have made strides in improving child support collections. And I have to echo some of the language that has been spoken on the floor about who are we thinking about here? Where are our priorities at here? The kids should come first under these conditions. The kids are what we should be worried about. I was reading this bill and thinking about it over the weekend and my 16-year-old son was sitting there and he said, what are you working on? And I just temporarily tried to explain it to him briefly and I said, what do you think? He said, you know people ought to pay their child support. He said I don't know what the big deal is. Why do you have all of this language in here about all of these hearings and all this stuff before a license is revoked? He said, if they don't pay their support, why is it so complicated? And I went on to explain that, you know, we do need to have due process. We do need to have safeguards to prevent hasty decisions that are wrong. People do need to have an opportunity