

SENATOR WITEK: Thank you, Madam President, members of the body. John Lindsay supported one of my amendments the other day, so you might think that this is just a return here, but I truly, it was on the same section, I believe, of this bill. And I support Senator Lindsay's amendment and, for a lot of the same reasons that we discussed when we were discussing what we wanted to report. It becomes apparent to me, with the defeat of my last amendment, that there seems to be a block of people who will vote this bill through exactly as it is, which means to say that you want this type of bureaucratic approach to this kind of problem. And there's really obviously no way to convince you that, that it isn't necessary, that there's something we could try incrementally, something that might even prove to be more effective and definitely less costly. But since, for whatever reasons, Senator Chambers asserts that it's political reasons and you're giving your Governor his child support enforcement bill to talk about on the campaign trail. I wish when you're on a campaign trail you could get into a little more detail, like we can here. We're not on a campaign trail here in the Legislature. What we're doing here is trying to find the best course of action for the state of Nebraska, for the people that we serve in the state of Nebraska. I definitely want to see child support increased. I love to see people individually responsible for those types of things. You know, that's what, when you talk about family values and I know that, you know, that's been bantered about a lot in the political arenas, but when you talk about forming a family in the first place, one of those basic family values is to have the parents, the grown-ups, responsible for the children that they're, that they've made and are raising. So in the best case scenario, these individuals would be responsible in paying their child support. And for whatever reasons, they have in some cases, as Senator Landis pointed out, been driven to not pay their child support. Either they're truly in arrears because they don't want any part of it, or because they truly can't pay the amount of child support that they've been, that they are on for whatever economic changes that have come about in their lives, and that need for flexibility is something that I hope we can talk about later on, on my amendment to this bill. This amendment deals with the area that you want the Department of Social Services, the director of Social Services and DMV to give us another report. Now let's be honest people. How much of the paperwork that you get on your desk do you actually get to read? And even if