

January 23, 1996 LB 592

SENATOR DIERKS: Question.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Question has been called. Do I see five hands? I see five hands. The question before you is shall debate cease. All those in favor vote aye, all those opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? Please record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 1 nay to cease debate Madam President.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Debate ceases. The Chair recognizes Senator Beutler to close on his amendment to the Witek amendment to LB 592.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Madam President, members of the Legislature, it is hard to know where to begin and where to end on something like this. It is something that we debated a long, long time. It is something that has been worked on very hard, the processes very carefully worked out, I'm absolutely convinced there would be no abuse of this process. This was Senator Day's bill, Senator Day working with a lot of the children's advocacy groups, was the one who formulated the bill and brought it to us and worked it through General File. Obviously did a much better of job it than I am doing apparently. But, I think you have to remember all of the people who are interested in this bill and why they are interested in it. It is the children. It is the single parent trying to support a family. This is what we are talking about. People on welfare who might be able to get off welfare. People who are just off welfare who might sink into welfare. These are the kinds of cases that we are talking about. Too much of this discussion, and I shouldn't say too much because some discussion is obviously appropriate with respect to fairness to the noncustodial parent. I think a lot of fairness is built in. I don't think there is an abuse in that matter and for the first time, for the first time we have paid attention to visitation and built in provisions for the noncustodial parent on visitation. I don't think that relatively minor questions on how we proceed, whether we have this procedure or that procedure or whether we do a little more of this or a little more of that should shift our focus away from the basic fact that we will be able to collect in a reasonable manner without hurting anybody, making people do that which the court has ordered them to do, nothing happens in either system without the court ordering it. In helping with the enforcement of those orders to the tune of probably eight to