

January 23, 1996 LB 592

SPEAKER WITHEM: The question before the body is shall the house go under call. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Record.

CLERK: 15 ayes, 0 nays to go under call, Mr. President.

SPEAKER WITHEM: The house is under call. Members please return to the floor. Those in your desks please check and make sure you have recorded your presence. the house is under call. Unauthorized parties please leave the floor.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I would like to conclude my close as people come in. This vote will not resolve the entire issue. But I believe the discussion that we have had shows that whatever we do we should not adopt the Beutler amendment. It has been adopted as of this point. A number of you have told me that since that it is the bill you would not vote for it. Others have said they will not vote for cloture. Believe it or not, my aim at this point goes beyond the issue of cloture. It goes to the type of legislation that can be passed by the Legislature that might give, as they say, something to everybody. If we reject Senator Beutler's amendment, in other words if you vote yes on the reconsideration, we will be positioned to vote again and the vote should be to reject or not to accept Senator Beutler's amendment. Before us at that point will be Senator Witek's amendment. I think we should then adopt that amendment. It still allows the taking of the drivers license but it is not a decision in the hands of bureaucrats and there is not in place a mini-linked chain where things can go wrong along the way. It is in a courtroom before a judge and the judge has discretion. The judge can look at all of the factors and decide which is the best way to make this recalcitrant person before him or her pay child support which he or she is capable of paying but has simply refused to pay. I hope that we will vote yes on this reconsideration motion. I still don't like the idea of the drivers license being used to enforce these orders, and I've said that over and over. But if Senator Witek's amendment is adopted, it ceases to be a life or death struggle with me. I can't speak for anybody else. And I would be prepared to vote, or at least not to hinder others from voting, to give the idea contained in her amendment a chance to become law, to see how it works and what adjustments should be made. With this amendment that you've adopted, all types of mischief can occur that may never be corrected. Under Senator Witek's amendment, far less