

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

April 19, 1999 LB 637

noncustodial parents and custodial parents and the lay people supported a centralized collection system and wanted to get about the work that they felt that they were charged with, which was how you went about putting it together. The rest of the group wanted to have some of the discussion we've had here, which is maintaining the system as it currently is. And so, as a result, the task force then commissioned this, through HHS, commissioned the Bureau of Business Research at UNL to do the study about the possibility of a waiver. But, as I said, you can't...you have to take the wage withholding piece of it out, and that makes it very difficult to make a linked system seem cost-effective. The Bureau of Business Research did the study according to the guidelines of the federal government, and their study came back very clearly that it was more cost-effective to have a central collection system rather than a linked system.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Yeah. Did they...did they...do you know if the business bureau called anybody, like the judges and so forth, that deal with it, or did they just...just follow the guidelines?

SENATOR BROWN: There...there...there was limited contact with individuals, and that's been one of the criticisms of the study that there was not sufficient contact. They did written contact and a minimal amount of phone contact with clerks, with judges, and with...I think with just clerks, I don't know that county attorneys were even included. But I think that is because county attorneys will continue to have the same role and receive the same money under the...under LB 637.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Yeah, to me, you know, maybe your experience is better than other experiences. But I think, as we send more up to the state government, I have problems with that. I think we can do things better at the local level, so I disagree with the findings of the better business...or the business at the university. Senator Chambers, if you'd like some...the rest of my time, you...you may.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Chambers. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Hartnett. I want the record to show that I thanked Senator Hartnett. Senator Brown,