

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

April 19, 1999 LB 637

senators in other districts in whom these women don't have confidence. So, should I do as I've threatened to do, but which everybody knows I'm not strong enough to do yet, and that's tell these women go to your own senator, I don't want to be bothered? I cannot do that yet. But maybe that is going to be necessary to get this Legislature to the point where we will assume our responsibility, all of us will, and we will stop saying I'm going to take the path of least resistance and then we'll just see what happens down the line and let things take care of themselves.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: If we could see the women, if we could see the children, maybe this whole issue would take on a different perspective for us. We would not just be seeing the computers that Senator Bruning is so in love with, but we would see people, and that's what I see all the time. Is what we're doing fair? Is it just? Is it going to help those we are supposed to help? That is what I need to look at first. We need to bracket this bill. I'd be in favor, Senator Redfield, of killing it outright, but some will vote to bracket who wouldn't vote to kill.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Chambers. (Visitors introduced) Senator Bruning, you're recognized for discussion on the bracket motion to LB 637.

SENATOR BRUNING: Mr. President, I yield my time to Senator Brown.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Brown.

SENATOR BROWN: Thank you, Senator Bruning. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, we have had so many different discussions that I'd like to bring it back a little bit to the two main issues, and the one thing that I would agree with, with Senator Chambers about, is that this is about women and children and it is about whether they're going to receive their support. I would argue that the federal government doesn't harm women and children. Those people who don't pay child support are the ones that harm the women and children. The federal government has