

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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SENATOR COORDSEN: One minute.

SENATOR BROWN: ...than we used to be, and people go from state to state, and this, having centralized systems, helps in the interstate collection of child support. Because of two states that already have their central collection systems, they were able to find somebody who owed \$160,000 in back child support. So it is not just whether our collections in the state of Nebraska are adequate, and I think that 60 percent is good, I think 100 percent is better, but it's whether nationwide we have a system that is going to be the best for collecting child support. And I still say that the partnership that we've had with the federal government has been successful and has caused us to be in the enviable position that we are right now and I don't, for one, do not want to...

SENATOR COORDSEN: Time.

SENATOR BROWN: ...disrupt it. Thank you.

SENATOR COORDSEN: (Visitors introduced) Next speaker, Senator Dierks, please.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. I had not weighed in on this bill yet today, but I was reminded by the senator from the 11th District that perhaps some of us should. I just want to tell you that I have difficulties with the entire process. My counties, for instance, most recent figures were June '98, indicate the following losses in revenue if this bill is enacted: Antelope County would lose 11,000; Boyd would lose 1,600; Holt, 13,400; and Knox, 8,700. And these amounts under LB 637 would be lost by the county and go to the state. There's a major change here involving what we call basic constitutional doctrine of separation of powers. Here's a function, if this bill passes, that would take the collections of orders for support from the judicial branch and put it in the executive branch and I just wonder if that's good decision making. There's...it also involves, I think, a basic question of federalism, as the bill brings into question the relationship between the states and the federal government. It is somewhat ironic that the federal government wants to transfer welfare payments back to the states, but they want to take over child