

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

May 13, 1999

LB 637

SENATOR SMITH: Mr. President, I move the adoption of E & R amendments to LB 637.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The motion is to adopt the E & R amendments to LB 867...LB 637, excuse me. All in favor say aye. Opposed nay. They are adopted.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Brown had filed AM1363. I have a note, Senator, you'd like to withdraw AM1363 and offer, as a substitute, AM1775.

SENATOR BROWN: Yes.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Seeing no objection, it is done.

CLERK: AM1775, Senator. (Legislative Journal page 2096.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: To open on your amendment, Senator Brown.

SENATOR BROWN: Thank you, Mr. President and members. At the end of General File on LB 637 we adopted an amendment that calls for us to ask for a waiver. That amendment leaves the bill in the position of...of satisfying absolutely none of the requirements that we need to satisfy in terms of dealing with...with the federal requirements that were put forth under the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act, the federal welfare reform legislation. To leave the legislation in the form that it is currently in is, in my estimation, irresponsible, and it does not...it's not even worth our time to do. So, LB...so AM1775 is the opportunity to...to con...to continue on the path of a waiver application, but doing...doing it within the parameters that...that...that would satisfy the federal government. It allows us to move forward on the establishment of a single disbursement unit in an attempt to meet the time lines that have been set out by the federal government, at least to show good faith in that regard. If the application for a waiver would be granted, then the single disbursement unit would only function for income withholding, which is the piece that absolutely cannot...not be centralized. If the waiver application were denied, then the single disbursement unit would have the capacity to deal with all child support payments. So this amendment is...is a compromise. It's