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LB 637

talked about this bill last and this time, that there are only three states that have not enacted legislation to state their intent to establish a single disbursement unit--California, and they are very serious about sanctioning California if they do not get on board; Indiana has not passed legislation yet, and Nebraska. And so I think that I, personally, believe that the threat of the loss of the money is very real. Senator Kerrey believes that the threat of the loss of the money is very real. And so I am offering AM1775 as an opportunity for those individuals who still wish to look at the option of a waiver, to have that opportunity, but to go forward with the system, a single disbursement system that would look one way, if the waiver were granted, look another way, if the waiver were not granted, but would still keep us in compliance with the requirement that the feds have that we state our intent to establish a single disbursement unit. The last thing that I want us to do...well, the last thing that I want us to do is to lose the federal money that has helped us get support for children. That's the last thing that I want to do. But I also don't want us to think that we advance a bill that is meaningless, and pat ourselves on the back, and then be surprised when we still get sanctioned. So I would ask you, if you believe that we're going to get sanctioned, then please, please look at this amendment, consider what...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BROWN: ...what I am going to be telling you about what we must have in place, and make sure that we adopt something that actually gets us somewhere. Because the last thing that we want is to lose the money, the last thing that we want is to have children not getting their assistance, and we can do it two ways. We can do it by not passing anything, or we can do it by passing something that doesn't do anything for us. So I would ask you to please consider AM1775 very seriously. And, with that, I would be glad to answer questions about AM1775. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Brown. You've heard the opening on AM1775 to LB 637. Open for discussion. Those wishing to speak are Senators Bohlke, Baker, Don Pederson, Jensen, Raikes, Senator Chambers, Byars, and Senator Quandahl.