

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

May 13, 1999

LB 637

Janssen.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor and members of the Legislature. From what I can gather, the turnaround time is the big issue with the federal government. Turnaround time that we have in some counties now is very, very minimal. Of course, I am familiar with the one county that I reside in. As soon as those checks are turned into the clerk of the district court, they are immediately sent, the check is immediately sent out from the clerk to the recipients. They don't have a problem with bad checks. If they do, the second time they are issued one, they go on a cash or money order payment. So they have no problem with that. And I might add that those checks, from the larger employers, all come in, in one check. The Hormel Corporation, Oil Gear, IBP, they all send one check, in my particular county anyway. When those checks are received, they have a list of the people who they are covering. They check one side where the disbursements are supposed to go, and add up...up that check, and they make sure that they are...are...that it's right, that everyone has added right and subtracted right. So that turnaround is within two days or shorter. The minute they get it, bingo, out they go again. And I'm not too...I wouldn't be a bit surprised that, if we follow this procedure and look at the people who are going to handle this, that you will see a coalition of the counties somewhere along the line, whether it comes from NACO or some other organization would like to take a shot at this. And I don't know who in the heck else would be more able to do this job, because they've been doing it for so many years, if this will be acceptable to the centralized collection agency, or whatever you want to call it. But another thing, we need to...we haven't been addressing is the need...that we need to keep the door open for the custodial parent, the person who has the problems. Right now they can go to the county...or the clerk of the district court and visit with them about the problems, if the checks aren't coming in, one thing and another. So we need to...we need to make sure that this stays in place, no matter who it is that is administering this, we need to have some place for that custodial parent to go with their problems, as we have now. I remember Senator Chambers talking about, you know, how...how the custodial parents need to come, need to have somewhere to go to voice their complaint. And I believe, the way...the way the