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LB 637

statements about the agencies that are just absolutely false. The Child Support Enforcement Division of Health and Human Services, I'm sure that all of us can find things to criticize. But I do know that they have a policy that when they enter into contracts, the people who are a part of negotiating that contract cannot take a job with the organization that receives the contract. I've heard a lot of concern about the privatization of this activity and allegations about what might happen, if it was privatized. And I think that if we want to preclude that activity, then we should just preclude it and just adopt legislation that says that it cannot be privatized. But I think it's very dangerous when we continue to discuss it in a sub rosa form and not deal with it on the floor of the Legislature, and call into question the very organization that we are a part of. There are no RFPs on the street for this activity...for the activity of the Central Disbursement Unit, no RFPs. The RFPs have not even been created, because we have not passed the legislation yet. There are RFPs on the street that have to do with the computer aspect, but there are no RFPs about centralized collection. And I think that if the agencies of the state, if our agencies move forward without having our policy in place, then that's something to be very concerned about. But to make allegations about our agencies, I think, is a problem, too. And I believe that we ha...we are perfectly within our rights to make clear to the agencies what we want our role to be. And in that regard, if it would not delay this bill, then I would probably be fine in accepting this amendment. But let's just...let's keep it to the truth and keep it to the floor of the Legislature. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Brown. Senator Kristensen, to close on AM1921 to LB 637.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, members. I would like to have this bill read. And part of the problem is that we know that the bill, in its present form, has been looked at by the Office of Child Support Enforcement. And, if I make a change, then I give the opportunity for them to come back and say, well, we want to reconsider this or look at it again. I think this is a good amendment. And what I'm going to...what I want to have happen, and what I hope that the IV-D Division is listening to us, because, if they don't, they'll hear more from