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Transcriber's Office

March 7, 2000

LB 414

SENATOR BROMM: And then on...on page 5, is that 5 of the committee amendment? It strikes beginning with "if". I'm just having trouble finding that. Is it page 5 of AM2008?

SENATOR BEUTLER: One minute, Senator. Okay, the...the reference, Senator, is to the original bill.

SENATOR BROMM: Okay. So, Section...part two of your amendment refers to the original bill.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Right.

SENATOR BROMM: Okay. Then...and I'll look that up. Then I've got a question, I guess, with respect to the situation where you have the reduction...possible reduction in staff as a result of the centralization of child support. And I understand that that's an exception to the continued employment assurances that are in the bill.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Right.

SENATOR BROMM: But who makes the decision, if there is centralization of child support, on whether or not there is less staff needed, and makes that decision to reduce staff? Who...who makes that decision under this amendment and bill?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. The way it's...the way it would work right now, Senator, is that there is a three-year transition. The first year and the second year it's still under the...it's still under the county. So that would be a decision of the clerk of the court, unless it's been consolidated. So the third year down, then they would be employees of the state court. And the wild card here is this centralization process which, you may have understood from recent information in the last couple of days, may be further delayed. But, hopefully, by that time that process will be...will be over. And decisions may have been made with regard...by the local clerk of the district court with regard to reducing personnel. But in the event that the decision was made not to deal with that problem at the local level, there are sufficient number of employees involved in that, that we felt it necessary to allow that prerogative with the state system at such time...