

LB1015

March 11, 1974

SENATOR F. LEWIS: I'll just....two more questions and I'll quit. First of all, did your committee receive considerable input along with the Public Health and Welfare Committee of the problem in child support this year?

SENATOR FELLMAN: Our committee, Senator, held....your committee....the Public Health and Welfare Committee held to my knowledge one hearing on this bill. Am I correct or wrong?

SENATOR F. LEWIS: On this particular bill, now, we have studied on at least two or three occasions or discussed child support.....

SENATOR FELLMAN: Senator, we've spent....the Judiciary Committee probably spent 20 to 30 hours.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Good, what's your proposal out of the Judiciary Committee to solve the problem?

SENATOR FELLMAN: Our proposal to go at the solution is contained in LB1015 which is the payroll child....the...the...the payroll deduction for child support. Our committee tossed out the other measures, the other four measures I just listed for you because they were too big to undertake at this time and because sufficient study hadn't been given so that a worthwhile comprehensive system that would be fair as well as emotionally packed could be developed.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: So you had an interim study committee on that and out of that came LB1015.

SENATOR FELLMAN: We had an interim study committee that held an all...hearing from 1:00 until 7:00 in Omaha, from 1:00 until 4:30 in Lincoln and from 1:00 until about 6:00 in Omaha. The Judiciary Committee has met privately on this two or three times. We have three or four memorandums of law and fact. We have had meetings with the Family Law Committee of the State Bar Association. We have had individual meetings with innumerable parties. I have a file this thick on this subject and I have letters from women all over the state telling me all about the problems of child support and I concur with every one of them. And that's why I feel especially put upon today to be placed by you or maybe and Senator Schmit though you more directly in the position of being against those women who want to have a simpler or... and a better way to collect child support. And I won't hold in public or in private that position.

PRESIDENT: Senator Lewis.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Then the point I would finally make, Mr. Chairman, is after deciding that this is a major problem, after massive study, then I would ask you after reviewing all that if LB1015 is the solution to see that there's collection of child support payments. If that's going to succeed and we've going to be able to provide the dollars from the parents that are responsible up to the point and then at that point it becomes an interest of the state, prevailing interest of the state to see that all other children have the necessary standard of living.

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Syas.

SENATOR SYAS: Well, Mr. President.....

PRESIDENT: Senator Kelly, you're next.