

SPEAKER NICHOL: May I introduce some guests, please. of Senator Conway in the north balcony. There are 29 eighth grade students from Wakefield, Nebraska, and their teacher. Would you folks please stand and be recognized. Thank you. Senator Higgins, please.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Mr. President. I can very well appreciate how a judge feels when he has to decide who is going to have custody. I see this from two different perspectives and I quite frankly don't know whether I agree with the Hoagland and Hannibal amendment or not. I've had so many women come to me and tell me that their husband was given visitation rights, but he never shows up or he does for the first week or two and then quits coming to visit the children and take them out and misses their birthdays and what have you. On the other hand, I've known of divorced men that dearly love their children and when they came to pick their children up on a weekend, what did they have to do with them? They were taking them out of their own neighborhood, they had no other children to play with and about the only thing the father can do is spend money that weekend, taking them hither, thither and yon to a movie or to Playland and spend money and more or less be an entertainer for the children. And then they go back to the mother when the weekend is over and the Dad is a good guy because he took the money and went out and entertained them and the mother is the bad guy because she's the one that has got them the rest of the week and the one that has to discipline them. And then the children get the attitude well Dad is one that really likes us because he is the one that takes us out and entertains us and Mom is the one that is always correcting us or nagging us or spanking us, whatever. On the other hand I kind of like the idea that the children would not be taken out of the home if the primary residence is established. Senator Hannibal, could I ask you a question, please? If this amendment were to pass, would it mean then, supposing you were divorced and had two or three children that under joint custody, perhaps you would live at the house for six months and take care of the children and then the next six months or every other month, whichever, your wife would and then that way the children...I read about a judge that did that once. He left the children in the home and said, okay, husband, you're going to live with those kids for six months. Wife, you're going to live with them six months and during those six