

point dealing with child support and I'll bet they will want to discuss that all day long. I don't mean just Senator Schmit now because it's been his issue, but people might think I mean him, not him, but others who are pushing that bill because they say the federal government is making certain requirements so to comply with what the government wants they will be willing to keep us here all day that day, the next day and however many days, but when we're talking about what happens to children here, suddenly time is very important. This was a thorny issue in the committee. The committee voted to send it out here knowing how controversial it was so they shouldn't be distressed at the the discussion. They knew it would occur. But to get down to the issues, children know how to play one parent against the other and they will understand that the parents have equal rights and equal custody and so forth and create difficult situations and children are able to do that. So if there is not one parent who really does have custody, I think a worse situation is created. If Senator Hannibal is not trying to expand the law from what it is now, this bill is not necessary because the court already said that in the rarest of cases this should be considered and it did not say it could not be considered in those rare cases. Now I would like to ask Senator Hannibal a question. Senator Hannibal, can you give me one case where a lawyer went into a district court and sought joint custody and the judge said I cannot entertain this motion?

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Hannibal.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Senator Chambers, I do not know of a specific case that has happened. It could have happened, it may have happened several times, I do not know of a case.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Do you know of...(interruption)

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Excuse me, I can tell you of one case. The constituent that brought it to me when he went to his attorney because he wanted to have joint custody an attorney said, no, they aren't hearing that anymore. Why? Because of the Supreme Court opinion on Trimble v. Trimble. That's how it originally came to me so that would be a case where the attorney said, no, you can't bring any because they're not hearing them anymore.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But I'm talking about judges. Have you