

please.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I am going to have the Page hand out a little news clipping relative to a case of apparent fraud that occurred in Hall County by a clerk of the court who converted child support payments to his own use and it was discovered by one of our auditors. I had a little personal experience in this same office about two months ago and I would just like to point out that if the clerks of the court were following the law as was established by this Legislature, that would not be possible to occur. This Legislature enacted legislation that required the clerks of the court to report every 30 days all delinquencies to the district judge. They don't do it. It also requires them to calculate interest on deficient child support payments. They refuse to do it. I suggest that before we enact additional legislation, we find out why we do not follow the statutes that are originally...that have been enacted. I believe that there is a group of people that are more abused probably than even the ex-wives in this case and that group of people are the ex-husbands who sincerely try to pay their child support and in some instances do not get proper credit and other instances are not treated as they should be treated by the court because of discrepancies in the method whereby the child support payments are handled or are not handled. I have had an interest in this for 15 years. Most of the statutes that we have passed in the last 15 years have carried my name. I have a bill in the Judiciary Committee, I believe it is 608, which I believe addressed the issue. But I would like to ask Senator Hoagland a question if he would yield.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Would you respond, Senator Hoagland, please.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Senator Hoagland, is there anything in LB 600 that will enforce the provisions of the present statute that require the clerks of the court to file a monthly report of delinquencies with the district judge?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Senator Schmit, there is a very important provision in the committee amendments that will significantly increase the clerk of the district court's ability to comply with that and that is that the Supreme Court Administrator has to develop and implement a statewide