

parents and want nothing to do with either set, do not want those grandparents of this child messing with the child. So if they are living together even, and have harmony with each other, and are trying to rear a child, you could have a conspiracy among four meddling old people, and you can look at me and see that I'm old, so when I say old there is nothing pejorative about that, it is merely a statement of a biological fact, meddling old people coming into a bad situation to make it worse. I'd like to ask Senator Hoagland a question because it troubles me and it is in connection with this provision. Senator Hoagland, let's assume that somehow a grandparent or some grandparents persuaded a judge to give them rights of visitation, the parent or parents of the child in question refused to allow those visitations to occur. You say that they could get lawyer fees to enforce that judgement, is that correct, or that order, is that correct?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: That's right. The judge has the discretion to allow attorney fees.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: In the case of divorced parents, right now, when one is granted visitation rights and those visitations are not allowed, does a similar provision allow that parent to obtain attorney fees?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Not under current law I don't believe, Senator Chambers, no.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Members of the Legislature, can you see how preposterous this is. Senator Hoagland and these other well-intentioned but misguided people are trying to give grandparents greater rights than the parents of the child. This particular provision is so bad that it is difficult to find arguments against it because it seems that self-evident...the self-evident nature of the badness would prevent its being seriously considered. And when something is self-evident it is hard to find arguments because no argument can say more clearly than the words themselves...

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...what is bad. So I hope you will reject this portion of the Hoagland-Johnson amendment. There is no reason to mix these two serious policy questions in one amendment and adopt them in this fashion. So I am