

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Hoagland, did you wish to speak on this?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Yes, I would like to present the reasons why I think this bringing child support into this visitation bill is not germane, Mr. Speaker, that Rule 7, 3(d), which we adopted as a rule change about 18 months ago, indicates that no motion proposition or subject different from that under consideration shall be admitted under color of an amendment. And then it goes on to recite other standards that you are familiar with. An amendment can relate only to the details of the specific subject of the bill and must be a natural or logical sequence to the subject matter of the original proposal. If it deals with a substantially different subject or accomplishes a substantially different purpose than that of the original bill, it is not germane. Now, I recognize that there has long been an effort to connect visitation rights with child support rights in divorce cases, but, in fact, they are very different subjects. In fact, they should not be connected. Senator Landis's proposal here really is light years away, conceptually, from what the bill deals with. Visitation rights to impose child support obligations on individuals that are not the parents of the child is a radical departure from current Nebraska law and, in my view, a nongermane subject.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Thank you. I am going to rule that this is not germane for the reason that there was nothing in the intent of the bill in the first place to have anything along the line of child support connected with this. In fact, as I understand it, and I don't know if this is true or not, but I would think it would not be connected with it because then perhaps it might infer that they had a right that they don't have simply because they were supporting. So I am going to rule it not germane. Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker, I will reluctantly move to overrule the Chair.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Okay, the question is, shall the Chair be overruled?

SENATOR LANDIS: That is a debatable issue, is it, Mr. Speaker?