

SENATOR LYNCH: Fine.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Lundy.

SENATOR LUNDY: I call the question. The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. The question is, shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. You are voting to cease debate. You should be in your seats, ladies and gentlemen. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Please return to your seats. Senator Vard Johnson.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, this child support bill works in this fashion. A man who is delinquent on his child support can have that delinquency referred to his employer. The employer from that point forward can be required to take out of that man's paycheck X number of dollars, remit those dollars to the clerk of the district court for ultimate dispensing of the same to the former wife and the children. Now it is important to understand that the employer of this man is the person required to take the money out of the fellow's paycheck and remit it to the court. The definition of employee in this bill says an employee is anybody who is compensated by an employer for services performed, and shall include an independent contractor who receives compensation for services. Under that definition of employee, then literally if I was to hire an electrical firm to come to my house and do some repair work for me, and if it was, let's say, just a single electrician who came to my house and did some work for me, that single electrician would be under this bill deemed my employee and I, Vard Johnson, can be required by the court system to take some money away from that electrician and send it to the court on child support. See, the electrician is my independent contractor, he is not my employee, my independent contractor. Once we get into that situation where any independent contractor is labeled an employee, which this bill does, then we literally make every last Nebraskan who will ever engage the services of anybody, not as an employee but simply as an independent contractor, exposed to having to collect child support. That goes too far. That simply goes too far. So Senator Beutler and I simply say let's go back to what you and I