

clarification where I think I can. I don't care what you do with the bill because there is no salvaging it. It is going to go through and it is bad. Talking about legislating through luck, with luck you are going to have a good bill in January, LB 600, all that nonsense. It is clear that collection of child support is of no concern to anybody. Now if Senator Hoagland and Senator Beutler were dealing with a bill that had to do with judicial district reorganization, they would have done a lot of work on it. Raising judges salaries, a lot of work would have been done on it. But this is a matter which has an emotional appeal by pretending that the concern is with the collection of child support when there is no great concern with that at all. That is why the bill is in such terrible condition and people can't give categorical answers to questions, but here is a clarification point. Senator Beutler, in answering Senator Nichol, mentioned that the Attorney General has concurrent jurisdiction with the county attorneys. That is true but concurrent means at the same time, not dominant. When the Attorney General's authority is concurrent that does not mean he can take over from the county attorney or dictate to the county attorney or say that he will do things and prevent the county attorney from doing it. It simply means, at worst, they can be doing the same thing at the same time with the same powers. But if you adopt an amendment that requires the Attorney General's agreement or consent, then you are giving the Attorney General's Office something that it does not have now. Whenever you give veto power where it did not exist, then you have made one party subordinate and the other one superior or dominant, to keep the words in the relationship that most people are familiar with. So those are things you ought to keep in mind. If you want the Attorney General's Office to have that new power, then go with what they are doing. If you have concerns that Senator Nichol had, strike it and let him retain what Senator Beutler correctly pointed out is his concurrent authority. But since it is clear from the way things are done now, the county attorneys nor the Attorney General care about collection of child support, the real issue is not child support collection but dominance. Who will be dominant? That is really the issue.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: (No response.)