

work you and Senator Hoagland have done on this bill and I realize that you have put in a great deal of time on it. I, too, am trying to do the very best I can to write the best bill that will return the greatest amount of money to the women who need this child support, the children that need it, and to the taxpayers. Now we have adopted this amendment that puts the Attorney General's Office in charge. I get the feeling here that the body doesn't like that idea, that they would prefer to go back to the way we had operated where it is run through the Department of Social Services and those attorneys that they have had in place for so many years. And because it has proven that we have increased child support collections, I will grant you, we haven't collected all of it. Ask any collection agency in the City of Omaha or Lincoln, do they ever collect all of the money that is owed to the merchants? If they do, they would be out of business too. But there are a certain amount of people that you will never collect it all from. So this is what my amendment will say. We are going to take out the first part of the Beutler amendment on page 197 and 198. Senator Beutler said there was more in that amendment than the Attorney General's Office. Yes, but if you remember last night, we divided the question, didn't we? So the first part of the Beutler amendment was the Attorney General's amendment. That is all. And the second part of my amendment says that we will now take out the amendment you just passed, AM 116S, the Hoagland amendment, and then you will be back to square one. You will have the Attorney General's Office out of it which the federal agencies do not require. We can get back to running business in the counties the way we want to run it, the way we have been running it. It isn't a perfect system. Neither is this Legislature a perfect system, neither is the Justice Department, neither is the Attorney General's Office, but it is an attempt to do something positive. It is an attempt to keep as many people happy about it as we can. It is an attempt to keep those four pilot projects going outstate that have increased child support collection 50 percent. And I don't even know if anybody has asked the Attorney General's Office if they want to have this transferred to them and how they would handle it. I can tell you this, every time I have been to the Attorney General's Office I have been told how swamped they are, how far behind they are on requests for opinions and on approval of rules and regulations from all the government agencies. So we are going to swamp them some more with a job that they are not