

people in the big counties. There should be somebody from a small county up here pleading for these five additional people to come and help with these court cases and the overloaded dockets in the smaller communities and in the smaller counties. Two hundred and thirteen thousand cases in 1975. In '76--227,000 cases. It's been increasing every year. In 1977 the cases are already running ahead of what they were this last year. I read the counties that were involved last time. I think there were 10 or 15 counties where some of these counties will take part of the clerical help and work them half time. In other words, they'll use one clerical person between two counties where they are capable of doing it. It is going to add \$33,000 to the budget of the county court system. We have got to do this if you people in the smaller counties want to have this caseload taken care of. I think Senator DeCamp explained it most well. I only wish that the rest of you would have been available, or that the people that were missing would have been available so we wouldn't have to attempt it again. Senator Luedtke spoke eloquently on the subject. I would hope that at this time you would reconsider what you did the other day, and those people that were absent would adopt this amendment to allow a total of ten, instead of five, in the clerical employees of the county court system. I would certainly hope that you people would adopt this amendment for around \$33,000.

PRESIDENT: Senator John DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President, as Senator Barnett said, this is the amendment we tried. It was the first attempt to make any changes in the budget bill. I think the important thing that I tried to bring out at the time was the county courts raised and produced, for the state, \$15 million. The Interstate highway, because of the 55 mile speed limit, has generated, and you know it as well as I, a lot more tickets and a lot more court activity. In order to process it it takes more people. But it's money, it's more income. So we're asking \$33,000 for a few more clerks so we can produce probably another million or two million dollars worth of income to the state. Last time we tried this amendment I think we had 23 votes. Had we had even half a dozen more people present we would have had the amendment. That is about all. Spend \$33,000 here, generate a few million or two for the state, that is what it gets down to. It's better than playing craps or anything else.

PRESIDENT: Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. Reluctantly I get up and oppose the amendment, as a whole host of amendments that you'll be seeing, I suspect there is justification for. I passed out, a few minutes ago, showing you a list of miscellaneous list of amendments that I know about that are pending. If you subtract that from what is available, if you just use the dollar amount above other possible amendments, which is General Fund money with the exception of the thing for the Field House and that is either General Fund or cigarette tax, one or the other. If you take from one, you take from the other. There is a whole host of dollars here that there is not revenue to meet. I don't recall a single agency that got all the additional help they requested. That doesn't mean that any of them, or all of them perhaps, were not justified in requesting it, but