

there in the state, these court reporters?

SENATOR BARNETT: I don't have any idea. That wasn't ever discussed, it wasn't asked for.

SENATOR DWORAK: What is the salary, average salary, of the court reporters in the State of Nebraska?

SENATOR BARNETT: About \$16,000, \$17,000.

SENATOR DWORAK: Okay, what is the average fee collection of the state reporters in the State of Nebraska.

SENATOR BARNETT: Boy, I don't know. I think you had better ask the bill introducer on that one. He should have all that information available for you. We didn't cover that in the committee hearing. We just covered this.

SENATOR DWORAK: I think we are imposing a cost on those people that need this service without a lot of information that we should have before we can talk on this bill or vote on this bill. I think this bill should sit on General File right now until this information is brought across. I can see no reason, no justification at all, for advancing this to Select File until these questions are answered. I look at the number, 271, and in all respect to Senator Barnett and Senator Lewis, this was a bill that did come up last year, and I know a year has passed and I know in my own case I have gotten caught on some bills that because of a time lag of a year, I haven't been as fresh on the information as I should be but I think because of that fact we very definitely better get some information here before we move this one inch. I would like to see this stay just exactly where it is and I don't want to hear the argument we can do it on Select File, because we can do it just as well on General File.

PRESIDENT: Senator Luedtke.

SPEAKER LUEDTKE: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I don't know what Senator Dworak is getting so exercised about. This is a matter of additional work that is requested and required of the court reporter. It goes beyond the salary level that we pay him or pay her, and believe me, we are not noted to be the highest paying people for court reporters in the nation. That is why we are losing so many of them. How many we have, I am not sure right now? That is a flexible figure. I know this, that lawyers have an awful time getting court reporters. Senator Dworak, are you listening to me? You asked the questions. I wish you would do me the favor of at least listening to me. On this particular matter, this is the amount of money that they have been receiving for doing this extra work. It would be like your asking a question of how much is the average amount an insurance agent makes in the State of Nebraska. You know yourself that if it is an insurance agent or a real estate agent, it means and it depends upon how much work he does, how much extra work, how many midnight hours he or she puts in. This is the same thing here. Now the amount we are talking about is the amount they get for this extra work. Now what do they do? They have to hire people, as Senator Lewis explained and I believe also Senator Barnett tried to explain, they hire people to physically put out this work. They do not need it unless somebody requests it.