

flies out, you are going to have so much cost involved in a exhumation or autopsy or whatever. So, I would urge you at this moment to reject this amendment and if you really are concerned about the cost, maybe address the other aspect, figure out a way to get the money back from the people who are benefiting. Maybe that is the way.

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Fowler.

SENATOR FOWLER: (no response).

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Stoney.

SENATOR STONEY: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I rise in support of the Maresh amendment. The reason that I do that is that I feel that what he is attempting to do at this point in time is certainly valid. The reason that I do that is that I am referring to a letter that is directed to Senator DeCamp by the Chief Medical Examiner in the State of Oklahoma. Now he attended the hearing that the Judiciary Committee held on this particular issue and Senator DeCamp had requested of this gentleman information relative to what the initial cost would be in establishing a chief medical examiner in the State of Nebraska. The indication that he has given is that the salary for this individual would be \$90,000 but of course he or she would require secretarial services, which would approximate \$9,500; then there would be an administrator for fiscal affairs at \$16,000; a diener which is an autopsy assistant for \$14,000; a histotechnologist diener for another \$14,000, and then in those cases where they had to travel about the state, there is an inclusion for a pathologist fee of \$250 a day, the diener's \$35 a day but the bottom line being for one Chief Medical Examiner in the State of Nebraska that cost would be \$162,500. Now as I read this bill and read specifically Section 7, it sets out the qualifications for a medical examiner here in our state. Some of those qualifications are that the individual be licensed to practice medicine and surgery, certified as a specialist in the practice of pathology by the American Board of Pathology, possess a specialized knowledge of the area of forensic pathology through education and training and demonstrate the express, and express an interest in forensic pathology. Now continuing into Section 9, I find that the board will be in a position to divide the state into no less than four districts. This is what Senator Maresh is talking about in his amendment. I would question whether or not we would limit the number of districts to four, we might initially. That also could be expanded which additionally would increase the cost. But as I read about the qualifications for these individuals who would practice in these districts, I see that each district shall be represented by a district medical examiner who shall possess the same qualifications of those of