

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: What we had is...according to the stats that we had, 20 to 50 percent, and it kind of depends upon what area actually went through the court bypass.

SENATOR CROSBY: Um-huh.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: So, approximately, if you want to take the high side, 50 percent of those people that went through the bypass.

SENATOR CROSBY: Okay, thank you. I was just trying to understand what you were doing and, as I said, I hadn't thought about the cost, because now we're all getting anxious about how many A bills are going to go through and what that A bill might have in mind. But I'll speak a little later as some of the amendments come on about some of the other concerns that I have. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Crosby. Senator Bernard-Stevens, did you wish to speak further on the amendment?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Yes, basically the information now that I have in front of me, and I apologize to the body for not having it on the opening. Again, it came up a little bit quicker than what I anticipated. What we basically did when we went through the fiscal part of this, because I, too, wanted to know how much it was going to be, what the fiscal staff did is took the average of three states that have a similar type of process, Minnesota, New Jersey, and I believe the other one was Iowa, though I'm not certain on the third one. And what they came out with is between those states you could go anywhere between 20 and 50 percent of the women involved would actually go through the bypass system. Of those people that go through the bypass system, not all, in fact few would even have a guardian ad litem or a counselor even appointed. In most cases, particularly in Nebraska it's going to be a very, very pro forma situation, it's not going to be an adversarial situation at all. So consequently, in Nebraska what we have done is you don't know, how much it will actually cost until...until you go through it a time or two, and even then it will change. What we've estimated is from the costs that we know of, within the State of Nebraska, the numbers that have appeared in other states, that if 20 or 50 percent went to court, and if they all had guardian ad litem, so we're talking about the high side here, it shouldn't be that they all won't have the counselor appointed.