

Nebraska between 45,000 and 81,000 or 82,000. On what basis did the fiscal office or your office come up with these figures? I have no idea how much this process costs per individual. Could you tell us that.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Yes, what they basically did, for the most part, Senator Schimek, is gave it their best guesstimate. And they said, let us assume, for example, that we're similar to other states, and it would be Minnesota, New Jersey, and it was not Iowa, it was Rhode Island for the third one. Let's assume that we're somewhere in the median, and let's take a high and a low. And so what we basically then said, in fiscal they said, all right, let's assume the average in Nebraska will be like other states, it will be about 20 percent. You may have 50 percent go through the process, but only 20 percent actually get a court appointed guardian ad litem or counsel. At that point you figure out how many cases that would be. And, again, that's where a guesstimate is, you guesstimate how many cases potential there are, how many actually are there in the other states, and we assume it will be somewhat similar. And then you multiply...they multiplied that by the fee for the average fee on the guardian ad litem, they multiplied also by the number of hours that they may have to work, and that's a guesstimate of how much time they may have to put in, but they used that guesstimate based on what other states' attorneys, or guardian ad litem's put into it, and added that together. And they, for the most part, said in Nebraska you're going to go from a high to a low, anywhere from 45,000 at your low, to 81,993 at 20 percent, and if 50 percent went through it you'd have the 114,000 to 205,000 dollars.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Okay. I understand the composite figures, but I was wanting a little breakdown. I'm just curious how much we estimate that a guardian ad litem would cost per individual case, or at least how many individual cases we're proposing. There are...it sounds like an awfully high figure to me, and that's why I'm just curious.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Senator, I was going through the notes here, the fiscal, and basically again they take...they assume that 1,813 possible women under 19, 20 percent of those would go through the process, which would be 362 possible women going through the process. They assume that...we'll take a half of it, 181 would go to district court, another 181 may go to county court, multiplied by the fee, so the district court \$35, the fee