

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

March 7, 2000

LB 414

\$1.7 million. Is that correct?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes. I mean the long term expense, once the transition has taken place, the total expense will be about three and...

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Almost \$4 million I think altogether.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...\$3.7 million.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Yeah.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yeah.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Okay, well, that's a substantial amount. I'd like to make two comments. First, I have practiced in a lot of the courts and I've been very impressed with the existing system of the clerks. I found them all to be, in my mind, competent and efficient and responsive to the individual. So I'm concerned about that being an argument, that it will create more efficiency. I'm not certain that that's the case. But I am concerned about the fiscal impact that this bill will have. I know we've read in the paper about how there's a concern about what we're doing, by way of property taxes and property tax relief and concern about what the Appropriations Committee has done in connection with the credits. But if this is passed, this is ultimately a credit that will be reflected on the property tax payers because of the fact that it's being transferred from the county to the state, as I see it. So I think it is a property tax benefit...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: ...in that respect. Would you like to comment on that, Senator Beutler?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator, I think that's directly... I think that's very... very much true. I think, as you know from our discussions in Appropriations, there are about \$8 million in property tax relief bills that are out here on the floor and it's not a question of whether we're taking property tax relief away. We're taking it away in one place but restoring it with