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LB 451

fair to leave state probation and the judges of Nebraska without the tools necessary...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Time.

SENATOR THOMPSON: ...to implement the bill last year.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Thompson. Senator Jensen, on the motion to override.

SENATOR JENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I don't vote often to override any Governor. I feel that that's...he's the chief executive officer and certainly he has that prerogative. I was a member of this task force and attended as many meetings as I could, and those I didn't attend one of my staff members did attend. I really believe that this needs to be done. Looking at the figures in Lancaster County, where they have used the system, they have saved dollars. I think frankly that we can save dollars across the state, and really more than anything is, I don't believe that our young people are being...justice is being applied evenly, fairly across the state. And I think this would be a way that we can do that. Now can 13 officers cover the entire state? That's certainly a question. I'd be very disappointed if a year from now they came back and said, cops, we need 30. But they, through the study, they took a look at all the cases across the state and where they are coming from and without a doubt, the majority of them are coming from eastern Nebraska, Omaha, Lancaster County and then there are fewer ones out west. But through their study, they really felt that 13 officers could cover the entire state. Is there going to be a waiting period for them to get there to that case? Maybe a little. But I do believe that what we want here, and what we need more than anything is the best interest of the young person, and that is early and quick adjudication, but more than anything, the proper placement and the proper action taken. I believe that for the cost of hiring these probation officers, the training that would go behind them and how they would act, I really think that we can save the \$680,000 over the biennium. It's...that case has been proven, I think, in Lancaster and other places where it has been done. So I am going to vote this time to override the