

about the amendments but when we get through applying the amendments I am trying to establish the picture of just what the bill will provide. Now, with these amendments adopted and applied, the bill would still provide a state level department, we will say or a Commission, with which to operate a State Coroners Office and you would have a state coroner plus how many of the divisional coroners are you going to have? Is there one in each county or one in each region, or what is that?

SENATOR FOWLER: There are three or....I think there are three, there would be three district examiners in addition to the Chief Examiner.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Okay, we would have four...a total of four then coroners in the State of Nebraska, one is the state coroner and the other the three district coroners, and they would take the place of all of the county coroners or municipal coroners....or how did we handle say the coroner in Lincoln and Omaha?

SENATOR FOWLER: Well, I can't say that I know the system for Omaha. The coroner system in Lincoln works with the County Attorney. The County Attorney is officially...has the responsibility for being the Coroner. He can bring in medical expertise and does so in Lancaster County for investigation. But this shifts the responsibility for that investigation off the....the County Attorney still will be involved, but the investigation will be done by qualified medical individuals.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Okay, now have you given...and your committee given any consideration to just setting this up within the organization of the State Highway Patrol as opposed to having a separate commission on it?

SENATOR FOWLER: I guess the feeling was that although many of the deaths that will be investigated may be potential for criminal investigation, not all the deaths are criminally related...some of the violent deaths, some of the deaths in institutions and so on. So I think the concept in our bill and in other states is that this is more than just law enforcement investigation. It is also a public health function and a review of kind of oversight on state and local institutions and things like that.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Okay, then you have changed the concept from a concept that originated out of the mysterious death or two out of the McCook area to, you know, to a concept of