

SENATOR MURPHY: Yes, sir. Question of Senator Fowler. Senator Fowler, I deduct from the committee's statement and the fiscal note that the principal source of information on this bill has been the Coroner from the state of Oklahoma, and I note that the fiscal note also indicates that based upon his testimony and the operation that the fiscal impact of this innocuous little piece of legislation is roughly one million dollars. Now, I know that someone once said a million dollars here, a million dollars there, a million dollars here, and first thing you know it starts to run into money, but I wonder what the impact of this amendment is going to be on that million dollar fiscal note.

SENATOR FOWLER: Senator Murphy, when we get to the A bill I will offer an amendment as to its fiscal cost. I have had two separate analysis done as to the cost, one by the Legislative Research Office contacting the states of Oklahoma, New Mexico and Utah that have state medical examiner systems. I then asked that information to be reviewed by our Legislative Fiscal Office and I have a statement from a fiscal analyst about that first analysis. A cost figure also was developed taking in some presumptions as to the number of deaths that are in Nebraska, the percentage that might be investigated under this bill, which is about 25 percent of the deaths that occur in the state, that in the number that would be autopsied, which is a third of that 25 percent under this bill, taking current autopsy costs, looking at questions such as rent, Senator Kahle's concern about travel, and so on, a full year cost for operation of this based on two separate analysis and looking at other states would be \$600,000. And that is full year cost. As the bill is set up the first year, there would not be a full year of operation. The board would go into effect for essentially the first six months. The staff would come on board January 1 and the program would be implemented. The first year cost would be \$400,000. Continuation of that then would be \$600,000. The amendment I have to the A bill appropriates \$400,000 for the next fiscal years, indicates for guidance in the future that continuation budgets should be based on a full year annual cost of \$596,500. I have both those....copies of both those to hand out, the analysis as to cost plus the letter reviewing that by the fiscal office. I was going to hold that to the A bill. If I....I don't know if that is enough answer or not. The State of Oklahoma which has two and a half million people has a budget of \$1,124,000. Since Nebraska's population is a million and a half, you could certainly see that our cost would not match that. The State