

March 19, 1980

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fine, but I do think we should have a limit on it.
Thanks.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Reutzel, do you have an amendment to the amendment?

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Reutzel moves to amend the Vickers amendment to include at least thirty hours in forensic pathology.

SENATOR REUTZEL: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I think we have had some discussion this morning on the duties of the county attorneys and what they should be trained in in order to do an adequate job, and I think since every county attorney is a county coroner, I think it is proper that they have some training in this, because currently they have no training whatsoever. They have no basis from which to determine the cause of death and I think that if we are going to have continued training, I think it is important that they have some background and I would move for the adoption of the amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Chambers, do you wish to speak to the Reutzel amendment?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, Senator Reutzel may have a very valid point and he may have made it jestingly, but since the body apparently feels that too much money was envisioned by 222 to provide for the type of situation we need to handle deaths in this state, and since apparently it is felt that the county attorney by virtue of being named the coroner should be able to do these various things, it seems appropriate that the Legislature would ensure that the county attorney has the necessary knowledge and understanding to carry out the functions imposed by statute. Since the statute does name the county attorney coroner, the statute or those who enact them, have the responsibility of undergirding that coroner with the type of knowledge and information needed to carry out the duties of a coroner. Rather than state all those duties because they were covered somewhat when we were talking about the medical examiner's bill, I want you to consider whether or not Senator Reutzel's amendment may have substantial validity. The Law Enforcement Training Center which would help put together the curriculum would certainly be free to make use of whatever consultants, instructors, trainers, or whatever, would be necessary to carry out the requirements of a provision like that that Senator Reutzel is offering. It is clear, and even those