

years back. I think Senator Schmit and DeCamp were here at that time, that the court system was a state system and that it would be controlled by the state and that it would be funded by the state. And since that basic decision was made we have all been following that guideline and slowly bringing the disparate elements of the court system under that general principle. LB 590 continues that movement and it contains essentially two concepts. The one concept is that it would allow for the assignment of a municipal court judge to temporarily perform the duties of a county judge in the county in which the municipal court judge serves. So what we are trying to do is build in some additional flexibility in the system and that additional flexibility of course would be built in in Omaha and Lincoln because Omaha and Lincoln are the only two counties, only two cities in the state which have a municipal court system. So that is the one thing that LB 590 does. The other item that it covers is to say that the salaries of the municipal court judges shall be paid out of state funds and they will no longer be paid by the local property taxpayer. What I need to point out to you is the relationship between the municipal courts in Lincoln and in Omaha and the county courts outstate. They have similar types of jurisdiction. If in Scottsbluff or Grand Island or Fremont you get a traffic ticket or DWI violation those are always handled in the county court and the county courts in all those cities, in all the places outstate are funded, over 90% of the funding is from state funds. So essentially the taxpayers in Lincoln and in Omaha are helping to fund the cost of processing traffic tickets in Fremont and Scottsbluff and other places in the west and that's all fair enough. That is what we're trying to do with the new court system, with the new principle underlying our idea of the court system at this time. So what we are saying to you is, treat Omaha and Lincoln the same and for the processing of traffic violations and those same types of cases that are processed in the county courts outstate, fund those with state funds at least to the extent of paying the salaries of the municipal court judges from state funds just as the salaries of the county court judges are paid from state funds. Those are the two purposes and the intent of LB 590 and I would ask you to vote for its advancement. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL PRESIDING

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Kilgarin.

SENATOR KILGARIN: I believe there should be an amendment on the desk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Kilgarin would move to amend