

\$640,000. Let's just lay it on to them and let everybody pick up the tab and quite frankly, I'm getting a little tired of this when they keep laying it on us and we have to help pick up the tab and get no benefits. So there must have been a good reason it was put in this way in the first place or they wouldn't have put it in. They haven't come up with the argument why it was put in. All they have come up with the argument is we want to save \$640,000, there shouldn't be two separate courts. So I say to you, let's stop and think a little bit. Let's wait a while, we give them their extra quarter per cent in their sales tax. In fact they have a 3.5 million dollar slush fund or carryover in their budget. I'm sure you saw the headlines in the World Herald. So they can afford the \$640,000 to run their municipal court. So I would say at this time, let's leave it. Let's see that the economy improves and then let's go ahead and let's try it another year. This isn't the year to unload another \$640,000 on the people other than those that live in Lincoln and Omaha. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Before we continue I would like to introduce first of all, underneath the South balcony, Bill Cerny, representative from South Dakota, 24th District and his wife Patty. Patty used to be Patty Pattis (phonetic) and was a lobbyist in the Nebraska Legislature. Now where are you sitting so we may welcome you. Okay. And from Lincoln, Nebraska, friends of Ron Cope, Mr. and Mrs. Ron Cope, Paula Busacker from Lincoln and she is under the North balcony. Where are you, please? Okay, over here. Senator Kilgarin, are you next?

SENATOR KILGARIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Go ahead.

SENATOR KILGARIN: Okay, thank you. Colleagues, I'd just like to say that Senator Beutler explained the bill I think quite well. I think some points I'd like to make or one point I'd like to make is the point of equity. We have ninety-three counties in this state. Ninety-one of those counties have county courts whose judges salaries are paid for by the state. Now in Lincoln and Omaha we not only have the county courts but we have a municipal court in both cities and those salaries are paid for by city taxpayers. They have concurrent jurisdiction. They deal with many of the same issues and yet the city has to pay twice for those court systems. So you've got two counties out of ninety-three counties that have an additional burden on them. I don't think