

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, my good friend Senator Howard Peterson just warned me I'd better tell them the truth so I will tell you the truth. Senator Kilgarin and other people came with a bill that would have cost about two and a half million. Probably it was a justified bill because it would have done some of the things, well it would have done the things that are being accomplished here, the economies in terms of streamlining. There are some efficiencies and some cost savings that are going to be realized and some efficiencies provided in the court system. That is one side. The other side is who pays for the doggone thing? Well, the way they originally had it, we all paid for it pretty much immediately to the tune of about two and a half million bucks. Now there is no doubt in my mind that that is probably fair. To be real honest with you it is fair but I don't think we can afford it this year. So they came up with an alternate solution that costs about a fourth or a fifth as much and it phases in the cost. So your next question is, well, is that fair to have to pay for it? My answer is, same as it has been on so many issues in here, look at the whole state, don't just look at your area. Look at the state from the standpoint of what is fair in the country and what is fair in the city and the cities do have the people. That is where the population is. Omaha and Lincoln, they do pay a lot of taxes. They should be entitled to essentially the same services as you are in the country. What is one of the services in the country? State funds pay the court system, the county judge. Because you have a variation of the court system in the cities to process more people that doesn't mean suddenly you shift that cost outside the general system. So if I am asking them to be fair on distributions of \$70 million or \$95 million in state aid or anything else to the country, then I've got to be consistent and say, okay, we're going to be fair in the distribution or handling of costs of the court. And so for that reason I am supporting this proposal in its amended form. As I say it is about a fourth or a fifth as expensive as what they originally proposed. It does accomplish a streamlining and I guess I think it is probably something that is going to have to be done and this is the cheapest way to do it at this time.

SENATOR NICHOL PRESIDING

SENATOR NICHOL: The motion is to advance the bill. All those in favor signify by voting aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Senator Kilgarin.

SENATOR KILGARIN: Well.....