

if this was going to be a referee or a judge as the way you saw the public counsel's job. He is going to interpret what could be made available. In actuality, it looks like they may end up being a little further interpreting what really are burial goods and so forth. Would they be authorized to seek technical expert in addition, expertise, would you say?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: My understanding, they would be able to use whatever means available to help them make that decision, yes, sir.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: So he could seek private, or he or she could seek additional counsel if they were needed to make a decision on some of the decisions they will be called on to make?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: That is correct.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: And I also am concerned about the workload that might be put upon this office. Have you thought about the further amount of money that may be needed to staff this office? Is there going to be an enormous amount of cases, perhaps? Is there any way to estimate where this may lead?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Senator, and I sincerely mean no offense by my answer, so, please, don't take it that way because I don't mean it that way. One of the things that has really irritated me along the way is there have been so many reasons brought up of why we shouldn't do things, and the idea that, you know, there might be a lot of disputes that may overwork the Office of Public Counsel and, therefore, we should think about another alternative, I guess my feeling of that is the following: Most of these disputes could have been, should have been, still can be resolved right now between the two groups. And in my opinion, it is the Historical Society that has been a giant grand barrier, right there. If the Historical Society would choose to dispute everything along the way, then it would be a tremendous workload. It would be if they choose to do that. I would say, I don't care. If they are going to do that, then I will go through with them each time, and if they want to spend their society's money, if they want to take the state's time, if they want to do that and drag their feet, I don't care, I think this is the way that we need to go. If they are reasonable and if both sides are reasonable, it should not be a factor and it should not be an overburden to that counsel's office, only those things that would be very difficult to