

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I'd like to ask Senator Chizek a question. Senator Chizek, the A bill is...it covers a two-year period as far as appropriation, 219,000 the first and 220 the next or vice versa?

SENATOR CHIZEK: 219,618 and 220,093 in '91-92, Senator, 70,000 in each fiscal year is for like support staff, bailiff, et cetera.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So it's close to a half a million dollars.

SENATOR CHIZEK: Close only counts in horseshoes, Senator.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But...okay. Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, the two judges are planned for Douglas County, and on this bill, as I have done with other bills that relate to judges, I've got to make some comments about the quality of justice or the lack of quality. There is racist, disparate sentencing in Douglas County. There are judges whose decisions reflect racism. The sentences they hand down reflect racism. This was established by a study conducted by a group that studies courts, judges and the way they sentence people and it relates to a set of circumstances where you might have codefendants and the black one gets a longer sentence than the white one, and the white one may serve no time at all. So when you read statistics in the newspapers about the number of black men who are locked up or on probation or on parole, much of it is accounted for because of the disparate sentencing of judges. There are other factors that enter into it such as not making arrests for the offenses, but that is not directly to be laid to the judges. But I do have to mention that in the part of Omaha known as West Omaha, there is considerable drug dealing. Channel 7 finally did a story on it, and although there are more drugs dealt, a greater dollar volume and more drug users, the percentage of drug arrests in Omaha for the period covered was 2 percent, 2 percent drug arrests where the greatest amount of drug abuse is occurring. They talk particularly about Millard North and how this lady has a child who wants to attend that school but she does not want her child to attend the school because of the amount of drug abuse. She mentioned that there are houses on her street where drugs are sold and known to be sold but they are white people's houses and the doors are not kicked down and the white people are not arrested. The white