

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Right, they are under their direction, an employee, in terms of doing the work of the court, yes, exactly.

SENATOR HABERMAN: All right, thank you. I would like to ask you to think about some of these questions I raise, everything being furnished and do we actually want to increase their fee. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Haberman. Mr. Clerk, do we have an amendment on the desk?

CLERK: Madam President, Senator Kristensen, would you like to offer your amendment, Senator?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: No, at this point, I would like to pass over that amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. I will now recognize Senator Warner, followed by Senator Beutler and Senator Kristensen. Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, my comments are, kind of, of a nature I think following Senator Beutler's and I am not sure what a solution should be here if there needs to be one, but I can recall where the issue of salaries for court reporters has been a budget item from time to time, and as I recall those, there has been usually considerable discussion on what portion of an individual's income came from these sources as opposed to their salary. And it seems to me, Senator Kristensen, as you have remarked now, that it varies all over the board depending on what a specific judge feels his or her court reporter should be doing. My only comment is that I would hope that since these numbers are being raised considerably, at least from what they currently are permitted to charge, that somewhere along the line we need to get into the budget process a recognition of this lack of uniformity that exists, at least by my understanding, between courts, number one, and, number two, there ought to be some standard which makes it appropriate to take these types...source of income into account because it certainly would have a very direct affect on what the appropriation for salary ought to be, or at least ought to be a consideration. I don't know if there is a way to do that at the moment, but I think it is a very legitimate concern that Senator Beutler has raised, that in the long run it does have an impact on the justification for the basic salary that