

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Okay, I want to follow up on that, Senator Kristensen, because I understand and I understood last year about the case overload and...and the need. I don't dispute that. I guess I'm looking at the fiscal note on this bill and I'm thinking about all the other big issues that we've got before us this bill...this year, and what if we didn't...what if we didn't pass this bill this year? I mean, we're talking in 1991-92 of about 13, 14...or \$1,400,000 combined and the second year about, oh, 18...or \$1,000,800.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Right.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: And that's a pretty big price tag.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Yes.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: I'm sure it worries you.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Yes.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: And I'm sure that may be where the bill may run into some difficulty. Could you just expand on your thoughts a little bit?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Well, I can. One is that the price tags of this bill, if we don't do it this year, we probably won't do it next year either because of the biennium budget and you and the Appropriations Committee knows that if you don't...if you don't do this now, you're going to wait another two years. And Senator Bernard-Stevens is going to jump up and say that's not true. But, I mean, in true reality, that's what occurs. Next is, is that the voters knew what the price tag was going to be, I mean, I went out and did 19 town hall meetings, I don't know how many other public affairs programs we did, never did we hide the fact of the cost. Now, granted, people are going to say, well, but the citizens should make that decision, you ought to vote on it for policy purposes and I agree. That's what we're doing here. We need to look at how important it is and what it's going to do. I think you will find the Governor's budget, the Appropriations Committee, they haven't earmarked those monies but they have set aside. Senator Withem has a bill on the Coordinating Commission with roughly the same arguments about what are the needs. That's the reason you go to the vote of the people...