

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. Senator Haberman, discussion on your amendment.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Senator Kristensen has told you that they will travel, they will travel. He doesn't tell you to where, how many times. He says that this is not the same thing as a court...as a district court on a trial case. He says this is different. Sure, it's different. He says that it's going to cost money to have these judges travel. Well the amendment says, shall hear argument on a case in the Supreme Court judicial district where the decision appealed was rendered. Now how big are the districts? He's saying it's not going to cost any money to have them travel in his bill. No, it's not going to cost any money. But it's going to cost some money in the amendment. He says, if they have to travel, there might not be enough cases, there might not be enough cases. Well, if there aren't enough cases, why are we passing the legislation? Why are we passing the legislation? The bill also says that they'll have their office in the judicial district where they come from. Well, now what's wrong with this? If we're going to finance this, if the citizens are going to finance it, what's wrong with having the judge live in the district? There is nothing wrong with that. But, if he's going to live in Lincoln and he's going to travel, it's going to cost more money. In Senator Kristensen's bill they travel. Three judges are going to travel, that costs more money than if they actually live there and travel within the district. So I don't feel that the citizens would really complain about the little more that they have to pay, if the judges travel, because they're going to travel in the main bill. But Senator Kristensen doesn't mention this, how much that's going to be, or what that's going to cost. So I ask this body to adopt the amendment that they hear the arguments in the Supreme Court judicial district where the decision appealed was rendered, and that the judge of the Court of Appeals shall reside and maintain his or her office in the Supreme Court judicial district from which he or she was appointed. There's nothing wrong with this. We're creating a whole new level of government, we're creating a whole new bureaucracy, but we're saying to the people, we're going to put it in Lincoln, we're not going to bring it out in western Nebraska, we're not going to take it up to northeast Nebraska, southwest Nebraska, headquarters are going to be in Lincoln. But we'll travel out to see your folks, from Lincoln. Blizzards, storms, holidays, vacations, we're going to be out