

going on here because this bill, in the form that it is going through, is the most wasted expenditure of money that you will make this session, if you pass this in this form. Now what my amendment does is this, it doesn't say that Douglas County doesn't need the judges. It admits that Douglas County needs the judges, and it provides for the judges, both judges to Douglas County. But what it does is cut down the amount of money that you will be spending on this from \$200,000 or so, in that vicinity, to \$100,000 or so, freeing up \$100,000 that could be spent for other purposes and which I hope I can show you you are completely wasting, completely wasting, by proceeding with this bill at a \$200,000 cost. The way the amendment would handle the matter is that one judge would be added to the system instead of two, and that judge would be given to Douglas County, and then the second thing that would be done in order to give Douglas County their second judge is that the current district court districts 21 and 5 would be combined into one district, and the reason that I am proposing that is because I hope I can show to you that when you combine these two legislative districts into one district, you have a work load per judge that is entirely reasonable and you save yourself \$100,000. I passed out to you the amendment, itself. I have also passed out to you a sheet called the "Major Effects of AM1749" and I explained there, basically, what I have just explained to you. I might also go ahead and explain that the Judicial Resources Commission, that mechanism that we set in place a few years ago to provide for transferring vacancies from one district to another, is left in place, because as long as you have the cumbersome 21-district system with several one-judge districts that we have, you need some mechanism for making adjustments. You know what happened? You know what happened. This is one of the great ironies of the legislative process, isn't it? The system worked. The system worked. It took a judge from an underworked district and gave it to an overworked district, and we just couldn't stand it that the system worked. And so what have we gone back to? We have gone back to the old political way of doing things that is add more judges to the system, even though we have some terribly underworked districts in this state, terribly underworked. This body has been negligent in not redistricting the judicial court system so that judges are all reasonably worked. I passed out a map to you which shows you quite simply what combining 5 and 21 would do, so you can see on there, visually, the two districts that have been combined. I have also passed out a list to you of the number of district court judges in the various districts, and you will see