

and I don't know if I'd do as well as she has. She's done an excellent job in trying to preserve that judgeship for Columbus. So I can understand and appreciate perspectives of those two senators. I do think, however, Senator Beutler is also right. He is making the point about the need to better allocate resources, and some of the handouts, that he's passed out, are pretty stunning in their statistical impact. If you look at his material, you see that a variance of four to one, in case work load, cannot be ignored. We cannot ignore the fact that some judges are working, if you base it on number of cases, four times as hard as other judges. It doesn't make sense. It doesn't...it isn't that anybody is wrong in this situation from their own perspective, it just seems like the right thing to do in terms of the public perspective is to balance it out better. Try to understand that it isn't fair for one judge to work that much harder, or several judges to work that much harder, while other judges, similarly it is not fair that they be underworked to that degree. So trying to find a balance is what I think Senator Beutler trying to do. It's appropriate and it's a difficult though thing to do, because I'm thinking here about my own daughter, Sarah, who's seven, and taking math, and coming home every night and showing me her math problems, she learns addition and subtraction. Seems like one of our problems in government today is that we learn how to add, and we haven't really remembered how to subtract. It's a much harder thing to do, to take away a program, to take away a judge or anything, and I'm going to be one of those fighting to try and add back something somebody is trying to take away from my own district. So that's part of the process and part of the job we have in representing our districts. But we have to understand that in certain situations like this it becomes more apparent than others that to add we maybe need to subtract that to balance out the work loads, to balance out appropriate levels of demands, that is the way we should be going. So I, for one, am pleased that Senator Beutler has backed this issue, it was very important back in the days when Chris was around as Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, and fought hard for this issue in those days. It's been kind of dormant now for a number of years, but Senator Beutler is back, and so is this issue, and I'm glad that it is, because it appropriately needs to be addressed. And despite the fact that everybody from their own perspective has, I think, a just cause, in their own mind at least. I do think Senator Beutler is heading us in the right direction in trying to balance out work loads to a greater degree than has been the case in the past. So I would rise in support of the Beutler