

know whether it's been brought up, I haven't listened to all of the debate, but one of the concerns that I have, and I'm going to listen to the debate and decide how to vote on this, but by aggregating the...do we have any idea about the cost? Has there been any study done on the cost of prosecution in these cases? Do you know?

SENATOR DIERKS: Not that I'm aware of.

SENATOR ASHFORD: One of the concerns that I have is unless the bill is very well worked out and we specifically set forth those offenses that we want to prosecute, very specifically excluding all those that maybe retailers would like to prosecute but that the cost of prosecuting those cases would enlarge substantially the office staff requirement at the county attorney level, some of the other prosecutorial costs, I'm going to be very concerned about making sure that this bill specifically only deal with the...you know, those cases where it could be identified as maybe the worst cases, because, otherwise, we're going to...already the law enforcement people and the county attorneys' offices, at least in Douglas County, are up to their limit in the types of offenses that they're prosecuting right now on some of the violent crime that we have had in Omaha. And to add to that office the responsibility or at least enlarge their prosecutorial jurisdiction in this area without a very well-thought-out bill that specifically sets forth those offenses that we want to go after, we're go...we don't want to turn the county attorney's office into a collection agency or nor do we want to turn the county attorney's office into a contract resolution or contract dispute office. So I know that I'm not going to vote for this bill until I know, have some idea, one, that we are specifically making sure that we're only going after those bad actors, so to speak, that we've talked about on the floor this morning, number one; and, number two, that we have some idea of what the cost is. Is Jim Jansen in Douglas County going to have to add two prosecutors, one prosecutor? Are we going to have to add some additional officers in the Omaha Police Division or the Douglas County sheriff's office to prosecute these? If we are, I would like to know what the cost of that is going to be and then have some idea before we go any further. Thanks.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Ashford. Senator Dierks.

SENATOR DIERKS: Well, Senator Ashford,...thank you,