

because they were already located around the state, and the counties already had that space, and so we just said we'll just continue in that space, and the counties will provide it and we'll go along. What we have found is there have been a lot of problems with the space, concern from the department wanting to move out. This is one example up in Norfolk. The counties being concerned about having to continue to provide this space, they're not too crazy about it either, to some degree. But when we studied this, and I don't have the study with me right now is the reason I'm asking you, okay. The study...I can get copies for you, but I don't have them readily available. But it showed the cost is something like \$2 million. And so if you head down this road, Senator Peterson, specifically applying it to one area, one county, but having broad implications that we're not aware of, you can...you can be talking about several million dollars of costs here, additional to the state, that may ultimately be wise. I'm saying that ultimately it may be the best thing to do for both the state and the counties. But the cost involved is what dropped us off from supporting that change over the last couple of years, and it ought to be the reason we ought to halt, at this point, pursuing your amendment without being more aware of its impact. So I guess I'm asking, Senator Peterson, this has come up rather quickly, if you wouldn't mind, I would be happy to share with you the study results of what we had. You can take a look at them, and we can readdress your concerns, perhaps on Select File, that way we would have more knowledge on which to make a decision. It's obviously your call. But if you decide to pursue this amendment, I would ask that people oppose it at this point, without knowing more about its impact in this cost.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Peterson, would you respond.

SENATOR PETERSON: We've been discussing this, Senator Moore and Eric Byrd and I, back here, and I think we need to redraft the amendment to take cost out and add the word "space".

SENATOR WESELY: Okay.

SENATOR PETERSON: And...so, maybe for now we discuss the bill, move it over and amend it on Select File.

SENATOR WESELY: I would really appreciate that, Senator Peterson.