

this point, but I think what Senator Lindsay has said as well as the papers that he handed around will show the need for a judge in Douglas County and because the need has been shown before and this same proposal had passed last year, I have kept my remarks to a minimum because I cannot improve on the information that Senator Lindsay has already presented you with.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. The Chair recognizes Senator Hartnett.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Madam Chairman and members of the body, Senator Lindsay, if I can ask you some questions. I was involved last year with this big package of Senator Crosby with the judges and so forth. These numbers that you pass out here, how much higher are they in Douglas County than Sarpy County? And another thing, I don't think it was with the juvenile judges, but there were different reporting mechanisms that I think maybe that was dealing with county judges. Is that...you know, do we use the same data for juvenile judges in all the jurisdictions or do we have different standards? I think that is something that came out in the...you know, my discussion as it dealt with this whole idea of judges.

SENATOR LINDSAY: There are, Senator Hartnett. There are, I believe the caseload is not even close between Sarpy and Douglas right now, Douglas is well above it. I think with the addition of the third judge I think Douglas still remains above Sarpy, but I can't say that. I will confirm that for you, but as far as the reporting there are some courts that will report, for example, a neglect case, if there's three kids, will report that as one case. Some will report it as three cases. Douglas is one of those that reports it as one case. So, if in fact, there is a skewering, and I frankly don't know how Sarpy does it, but if there is a skewering of statistics it would be, if we report it like some other counties, it would be even higher. The case would be even higher than it shows rather than lower.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Do we need to address that situation?

SENATOR LINDSAY: Absolutely.

SENATOR HARTNETT: How data is reported to us as we look at this, you know, because when you add a judge, whether it's juvenile, county judge, district judge, you know we're talking about.