

of law. The individual bonds that are required now, are they required in specific amounts for each...

SENATOR VRTISKA: They are for many offices. They have a minimum amount that can be required but the blanket bond can be written up to the amount totalling all of those required amounts together and they can be written up, or an amount in excess of that amount if there is any concerns and they can be written up to a million dollars or whatever... You know some counties, smaller counties don't require that much. but some of the larger counties do and even more than that.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Under this language in the bill is it possible for a board to decide to write the aggregate bond for an amount less than the total of the statutorily required individual bonds?

SENATOR VRTISKA: No, I don't think that that would be possible because of the statute that is already in place that says, for example, county board members have to have a thousand dollar bond and a treasurer has to have a bond in an amount that is equal in the amount of money that is carried on hand in the treasurer's office and et cetera down the line. And those are spelled out and it couldn't be not being less than that amount together.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Schimek, followed by Senator Maurstad.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, Mr. President and members of the body, I'm not sure I understand this Senator Vrtiska. What's the purpose of doing this?

SENATOR VRTISKA: Basically it's a money saving issue because you can buy a blanket bond for all of the individuals who are elected and appointed cheaper than you can buy all the separate individual bonds because many of those bonds are thousand dollar bonds and there's a minimum amount required just to do the paperwork and to get them in place.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Okay, I don't know if you said that, but I didn't catch that earlier. I presumed that was the answer.

SENATOR VRTISKA: That's right.