

going to solve the problem. The way we'll solve the problem is to stop this continued costs of trials and retrials and filings of rehearings, but that's not what this is going to address and I don't know how we're going to do that. That's something that has to be done at a different time in a different...I'm certainly, it's something that we need to talk about, but it's not a part of this issue. This issue we're talking about is how we'd pay for those costs that have been incurred and will continue to be incurred because of the trying to prosecute people for capital crimes and, as Senator Kristensen said, this only deals with capital cases. This is not going to be for all of those cases that counties are going to still be subject to paying for as far as the indigents who commit lesser crimes. So we're only talking about capital crimes where, of course, costs can be a great deal higher and I think one of the things that Senator Kristensen brought out that I need to emphasize and that is you really need qualified, competent...

**SPEAKER WITHEM:** One minute.

**SENATOR VRTISKA:** ...attorneys, attorneys who have the experience, not to say that all attorneys aren't competent and qualified, but some aren't as qualified in the area of capital crime as others and as Senator Kristensen has indicated, many times then you have a retrial and you have further hearings because the cases weren't adjudicated in the manner that they probably should have been had they had a fully qualified attorney who has had a great deal of experience in dealing with capital cases. So that, basically, is what we're dealing with and I would hope that you would listen carefully and take heed as this could happen certainly to you in your county that you represent, and they will be coming to you and asking you what you can do, and I think now is the time to take that action before it happens. So with that I thank you, Senator Kristensen, for this time and thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**SPEAKER WITHEM:** Thank you, Senator Vrtiska. Senator Vrtiska, your light is next, do you wish to speak again? Senator Beutler.

**SENATOR BEUTLER:** Senator Kristensen, if I may, let me see if I have some of the mechanisms of the bill correct. And first of all, let me say that I admire you for bringing forth this bill in the sense that it's a very difficult issue, and I really do believe very strongly that we need to straighten out a number of