

a support unit. This would come in in certain cases and provide assistance, but I think the county is going to have to come in and ask for that, and obviously that interplay between the part-time public defender, most part-time public defenders would not want that major capital case, because if they're part-time, that means that they're only getting paid part-time as well and one case like that could just destroy your office. Now yours may be a little bigger, but for example, Kearney County, we have a part-time public defender. He lives in fear of having a capital case because if he has one then he's done. I mean he gets paid a small amount of money for a huge amount of exposure and work and it's going to just adversely impact him and he's going to find a way to get out of that case, no matter what. And I mean if it means resigning, he might do it, where a unit like this, they could come in and gain some assistance. It would still allow the county to go out and hire someone else if they wanted to do it with their own funds, similar to what Senator Beutler was just asking.

SENATOR HARTNETT: So what you're saying is you don't see any impact upon...

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: I do not.

SENATOR HARTNETT: ...at this time. You know you were saying that the fiscal note was going to be about \$500,000. That doesn't, you know, that doesn't fund very much money. Do we need to define in the bill, and I haven't...what cases that this new commission, are we starting another bureaucracy at the state level that will keep growing from here on in? You know we've got 500,000 this year, you know?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Well, Senator,...

SENATOR HARTNETT: ...because you could define, you know, the cases as, you know, I think in Senator Vrtiska case, you know...

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: I'm willing to do that, Senator, I mean to the extent what I want to make sure is that we don't tie it down so far that it can't do what we want it to do either. Am I willing to looking to be more specific for some of the standards? Yes. If we do that, of course, then there are other things we have to take into consideration, but the reason I feel somewhat comfortable about state funding and using appropriation is, that we can control that amount. In other words, we're not