

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: It's to do the fundamental staff people or...

SENATOR HALL: None of that would, basically, be reimbursement for purposes of counties who could apply because you've changed the effective date of the new Section 11 to July 1 of 1997?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Right, I put it in another budget year, yes.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Time. Senator Lindsay.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members, I think to just help develop a little background on this, the origin of this bill, I think the Legislature ought to be aware of a couple of things. In...several years ago or a few years ago the Chief Justice appointed the Indigent Defense Task Force which implemented a study, along with members of the bar association, implemented a study which hired the Spangenburg group which came out with a study on indigent defense in Nebraska. This report came out in December of '93. January of '94 legislation was introduced, referred that time to the Judiciary Committee, and the committee looked at those bills and I think, frankly, was scared off by the fiscal note on the one that is similar to this one. Some of the background we should know, that indigent defense in Nebraska, if we are truly going to be looking at taking it over, is going to cost somewhere between seven and a half and \$11 million. And I think if we're going to be realistic about this, if we really intend to provide any property tax relief, if, in fact, this is a county revenue assistance act, we ought to be looking at how much money we're willing to appropriate. If we're not willing to appropriate the dollars, if you're not willing to give up some of those other priorities that we have, then what we're going through here is creating another bureaucracy that isn't going to do anything. We're going to have...if we do as Senator Kristensen is suggesting, a \$500,000 appropriation or whatever, I suggest that it's going to cost some money to set up the chief counsel and set up the commission and those types of things and it's going to eat up a chunk of that money. You've got to question how much money is going to be left for actual indigent defense and how much is going to help some of these counties. Number one, let's realize this isn't going to affect or it's not going to help Floyd's district. It's not going to help him because this