

part of the ebb and flow of government. Some years you have a lot of money and some years you don't have quite as much to do the things that you need to have done. And there is that concern that you'd have that first degree murder case that comes up and that person needs to be defended, properly defended, but there's also different standards of what is, in fact, a proper defense and it's kind of ironic that we're dealing with this particular issue in the middle of the O.J. Simpson trial because you see that is the extreme of having a defense for a charge against an individual. It's been a multimillion dollar legal defense. Now do all individuals that are charged with first degree murder, do they get the same type of representation? Of course not. And that is, in fact, a problem with this type of a bill and determining what will be the proper level of legal support that that individual should receive. Should an individual receive the entire \$500,000, one individual in one particular county? And maybe that individual needs more than \$500,000. Part of the problem you have is that I think there is a real lack of accountability here. At least when you have a county in charge of the system, they're accountable to some county board that has to discuss whether or not those taxes are going to be raised on the citizens of that county. I don't think there is accountability with this particular proposal. My county hasn't contacted me about this particular proposal. I noticed that they weren't listed as one of the supporters or opponents of the piece of legislation, so I can't really speak on how my board feels about this issue, but I do know that when it comes to legal expenses, it can vary on how much a particular attorney...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR BOHLKE: ...seeks to charge or how much time that attorney seeks to put into a case, and if you have a situation where there isn't any accountability as to what...who will be responsible for the bill, ultimately, an attorney has an obligation to represent his client zealously and that requires a great deal of time and effort to be placed into it and I would assume that that will quickly drain this fund. Those are my concerns. As I said, I have a lot of sympathy for what Senator Kristensen is attempting to do here today, but I do have some reservations about this particular proposal and I don't believe I'll be able to support it. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Hall, followed by Senators Lindsay,