

this amendment is that I think it will require and give an incentive, it really doesn't require, but it gives an incentive to counties to come to the table and analyze their indigent defense system and decide if, in fact, they want to take advantage of a safety net, then they have to become proactive in becoming involved with an arrangement with a local public defender or with other counties in providing some indigent defense services in that fashion, and I think that that makes a lot of sense. The state contribution or the state responsibility for contributing to the cost of these services probably will need to be better defined, but I think what this amendment puts on the table is a cooperative effort and I think that's necessary from a practical standpoint. I think it's better that way. I think it's also from a political standpoint only practical that we approach it that way. So without getting into the bill or the amendment to pick apart any particular provisions of the amendment, the point that I want to emphasize is that I think the philosophy of the amendment is a good philosophy. I think it will help the bill if we adopt the amendment and if there are differences of opinion, and there will be, between now and Select File I think we should work towards ironing out what might be the rough edges of the Lindsay amendment and the Kristensen bill and maybe we can come closer to finding some common ground by Select File. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Bromm. Senator Kristensen. Senator Lindsay, to close on your amendment.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members, the amendment, as I mentioned, is on your desk and, hopefully, you've had a chance to browse through it. The amendment does, as I mentioned, I just, I guess, would repeat it that what it does is it simply makes it clear that these are supplementary services that are going to be provided from the state level down to the local county levels. And it encourages, does not mandate, but encourages the creation of those...utilizing some method of proactive planning for indigent defense cases. I think had this type of system been in place a couple years ago, I don't think Richardson County would be facing the problem that they face now. I believe that one of those cases, one of those defendants would be represented by the commission at the state level, being paid for at the state level, with the other being paid for at the county level which I think would have the effect of greatly reducing the liability of Richardson County. And I