

through, especially the debate between, I believe, Senator Hartnett and Senator Kristensen or Senator Beutler and Senator Kristensen, and I believe it was Paul that asked Senator Kristensen what about the district...judicial district public defender system. Why aren't we using that, or why can't we use that? Senator Kristensen said, it's never been funded. But somehow we think this one's going to be funded. And between now and next time we talk about this bill, I hope to pull the legislative history on that other bill to see if a similar debate took place about whether we're going to fund it. I suspect that maybe that occurred. And I think now we're creating yet another commission. And when some of you I know complain about how many people are on commissions, and how many commissions we have, and how many per diems we're paying, and all these other kinds of things for something that may or may not be funded when we already have a system that's existing out there that's not funded, I don't think it's a legitimate position to take to say that we don't need these other commissions, especially when we're going to hit on the budget here in a couple of weeks, merging and combining different agencies, and merging and combining different functions, and at the same time creating a replicate of a system that we already have. That's the concern I have. I am extremely uncomfortable with creating that. And Senator Kristensen will argue that it's not a bureaucracy, and that's, I guess bureaucracy is in the eye of the beholder. What I see is a commission with...starting off with four or five lawyers and expanding from there. And that...it may not be a bureaucracy, I think we can call it whatever we want. But the fact is we're going to have four or five more state employees, plus support staff, and we're going to have nine people getting their per diems and maybe it's not a bureaucracy, but we're going to have an entity out there that state taxpayers are going to pay for, and property taxpayers are going to not receive any benefit from. I would urge that the bill be indefinitely postponed.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Kristensen, you are entitled to respond to the motion at this time, if you so desire. Senator Hall, on the motion to indefinitely postpone.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I rise in support of the motion to indefinitely postpone the measure. The reason for the discussion on the floor, even though I know that Senator Kristensen felt that he's come ten miles in dealing with this issue on General File, the problem is it's not a ten-mile