

trying to find money to pay for different things, whether it be FFA, 4-H at the State Fair, or whether it be...whether it be additional funding for a breezeway at the UNL College of Engineering, or whether it be whatever our particular...whatever our particular project might be, that we have to come up with another quarter million dollars each time we create an additional judge, and that, at some point, they will see the same political realities that we have to see and, hopefully, then will...they will be in a position where we will have empowered them to look at those things and make those types of tough calls, that we don't really give them the tools to do right now. It would be my hope that this would continue to evolve, that at some point we could empower that Resources Commission more by constitutional amendment to actually do that so they actually have to utilize...or the Supreme Court to utilize whatever resources this Legislature sees fit to use for the judicial branch of government. The...with that, I would be happy to try to answer any questions you might have regarding the amendment. Would urge that the amendment be adopted.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Lindsay. Senator Wehrbein. Senator Wehrbein. Senator Wickersham.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Thank you, Madam President. I rise in support of the Lindsay amendment. In part, we are making an advance toward the objective that I think we're all anxious to arrive at and that is an appropriate allocation of judicial resources across the State of Nebraska, allowing all people to have appropriate access to the court and to develop the proper information base upon which to make those decisions, and to have a process whereby person who would be most affected by the decisions concerning the allocation of judicial resources will have an opportunity to advise the Resources Commission what their views are of those allocations and how they could be affected by them. As we've discussed earlier, those are not decisions that I believe should be based solely on caseloads, on weighted caseloads, or any other variation of caseloads that you might want to attempt. It is a more comprehensive issue than simply those bare numbers that we might be able to derive from some clerk of the court. So I believe it's appropriate that we continue to utilize the Judicial Resources Commission for those recommendations and that analysis. Now I believe that later on there will be an amendment to this amendment to deal with a variety of technical issues that have arisen in the drawing of this document. One of the items that will be addressed is the