

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Now you can criticize the numbers, you can criticize the workloads that are indicated by the numbers if you want, but on a practical basis it would be very, very, very difficult to do anything else and absolutely impractical I would suggest to you in the eight and the first judicial districts that would be affected by Senator Beutler's amendment. Aside from being an inappropriate policy for this body to adopt and imposing burdens on individuals seeking access and redress in the courts while the Legislature fiddled away trying to make a decision. I oppose the Beutler amendment and urge you to do likewise.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Wickersham. Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Madam President, members of the Legislature, I'm currently on the...if you're looking at the district court judicial districts, I'm currently in District 11, or at least that's Lincoln County, and of course we have a lot of other counties and I could do like Senator Wickersham and name all the counties that are in there but it doesn't do any good to do so. My point being at sometime in the future District 11 may in fact have a lower caseload and if we agree with the Beutler amendment would be under review and I'm in support of that. I think that's great. Well I don't know if I think it was great now that I think about it, but it's something that needs to be done. I support the Beutler amendment and every member in this body should support the Beutler amendment as well because all it's saying is, (a) we're not necessarily taking any judge from any district but we're going to as a Legislature look at the lowest caseload areas and we may make a recommendation. We may make a recommendation that in a district, and it may be these three this time, maybe another three five or ten years from now, who knows what it will be, we may make a recommendation of trading a judge one way or another or we may simply change the districts. We may redistrict to make them more reasonable as far as caseload. But Senator Beutler made a compelling argument on his last amendment that was of the similar nature and that argument is that if we're going to be true to the taxpayers we have got to adjust to the changes in Nebraska. I hate to admit it from my part of the state, but population is shifting. I'd like to see it stop. I'd like to see our part of the state begin growing more, but