

making...making decisions, but we are confronted with the kind of the age-old chicken and egg sort of problem. You have a need for resources, but you aren't comfortable that the numbers are right, which do you do? Do you fill that need, or do you wait until you get perfect numbers? I think the situation in Sarpy County, with their annual increases going up to the extent that they are, and I keep saying Sarpy County judge, and I should issue a great apology to Senator Wehrbein here, because District 2 is, in fact, Cass County, Otoe County and Sarpy County, and the way they divide the work right now, there are three judges, and two of them predominantly sit in Sarpy County, and a third one sits predominantly in Cass and Otoe, but I think from time to time maybe Cass and Otoe do suffer a little bit because Judge Rehmeier, is that the gentleman's name, does come up into Sarpy County on occasion. So it would be resources for that entire area, and not just Sarpy County. I have been referring to it as the Sarpy County area, but there is a need for the additional judgeship in Sarpy County. It is the one provision of the bill I guess that I do feel fairly strongly about. The others were merely tag ons to the bill, LB 189, dealing with other judicial issues. I think as I indicated earlier, I am very sympathetic to the type of concerns issued by Senator Beutler and Senator Chambers and Senator Lindsay about the need to do a better job of reallocating judicial resources. You know, this argument took place two weeks ago, and my guess is there are probably some members of the Bar Association that have forgotten their commitment already. It is my hope that they don't. It is my hope that they continue to work on the commitment that was made, and some of us will be after them to do that, but at this point, particularly, Senator Beutler, can you answer me a real quick question, just a factual question.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Beutler.

SPEAKER WITHEM: What number district is Lancaster County?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Lancaster is 3, I think.

SPEAKER WITHEM: District 3. The number of cases in District 2 is actually far more significant than they are in District 3, at this point. We just now passed a bill on Final Reading authorizing an additional judge for Lancaster County. Certainly, the situation in the 2nd Judicial District is worthy of having this additional judgeship and I would urge you not to support the Chambers amendment.