

of public fund to furnish immediate aid and relief to that county. The Governor would determine the amount of aid to be furnished and the Governor would issue his or her voucher to the Director of Administrative Services who would issue his or her warrant therefore to the applicant to the county. Any money in the fund available for investment would be invested by the State Investment Officer. That's just common language that they put into some of the funds that we've created in Nebraska. I think that my amendment goes much, much more to the heart of what the problem is in Nebraska and that is with counties such as Richardson County which normally...I know Senator Vrtiska put out their normal expenses that they have incurred over the last ten years, and it looks to be probably somewhere around \$60,000 a year that they normally spend and this year, so far, they have spent twice that amount. So that would definitely be, I'm sure, criteria for the Governor's office to issue some type of help. Since he has already gone to the trouble of expediting their federal flood money, I'm sure that would be a similar incident or, in his opinion, that type of an incident in that type of a county and Richardson County would go ahead and allow him to free up some of this money that we would allocate for...for this problem that they're having in Richardson County or any other county where it would occur. I think it would keep...I think when we're allowing other attorneys to go into these counties, there are already attorneys in that area that we're taking work away from so that's another reason to go ahead and do this type of...this type of emergency fund where we're putting money into the county because that's what they need is the money, but we're also using resources of the county area instead of providing resources from someplace like Lincoln. which is where this bill sets up the resource center. I wanted to give you an opportunity because this is how I would like to see 646 come out of the Legislature this year in an indigent defense...an actual indigent defense fund set up for Richardson County and other counties. I would like to see more done on this issue. I would like to see an interim study done as to how this can best be done. I know that there has been some study of this issue and there have been conflicting reports to me as to what would be best. But I don't think setting up an entire new bureaucracy is the answer and I think that this amendment goes a little more to what the problem is and that's the counties just not having the money over that period of time because of an extraordinary case like the case in Richardson County right now, and needing that help over that short period of time to help them through...through a case like they have down in Richardson