

of this information would further tighten down the situation.

SENATOR DIERKS: Yes. And I am not saying that the Attorney General has given opinions that were not satisfactory. I'm just saying that I've heard some of these reports that there have been investigations and those investigations have not shown anything.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay.

SENATOR DIERKS: And some of the people who asked the investigations felt they should.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, with respect to the Maurstad amendment, and maybe I should ask Senator Maurstad this question since it's his amendment.

SENATOR WILL: Senator Maurstad, will you respond?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator, I suppose the normal course we usually take in here is not to depart from the present system unless it's been demonstrated that somehow the present system doesn't work or that some new system will work better, the old, if it ain't broken, don't fix it saw. Are you aware of any situation where a county attorney has been asked to investigate a particular situation of this nature and the county attorney has refused or failed to do so?

SENATOR MAURSTAD: No, I'm not.

SENATOR BEUTLER: That being the case, how do you know that the county attorneys are overburdened and, therefore, it should go to the Attorney General, who is so overburdened that we're going to lay out another \$10,000 for him to get the job done?

SENATOR MAURSTAD: It is a judgment of mine...

SENATOR WILL: One minute.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: ...based upon the relative staffs available to the county attorneys across the state and the staff available to the Attorney General, a comparison, it's a judgment of mine based upon county attorneys that have contacted me on other issues indicating the workload that they are under currently