

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes, under this amendment, Douglas County, like all other counties, would have the right to send these types of cases to the Regional Centers, just like everybody from all over the state sends their people to the Regional Centers, and they would abide by the same reimbursement program as everybody else, which would be the county would pay, generally speaking, the first \$15, and then the remaining, I don't know what it is, 150, 200 dollars, I mean it is up there. Almost all of the cost would be born by the state, but at least there would be a small cost born by the county, again with the theory of helping them to take seriously some decisions they make in this process.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Would it require them to do so?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Well,...

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Could, so they could, if they...

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...this statute, I don't...I don't know if there are other statutes sitting out there that require them to do one thing or another. I think not, but this particular statute, the one we are dealing with now certainly does not require them to use this reimbursement system.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: So if they independently wanted to handle this issue within any county differently than the way this statute calls for, they would still be able to do that?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes, as far as this statute is concerned.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: I appreciate the responses, and along the lines of Senator Elmer, I just want to make sure that my friends in Omaha and Douglas County aren't being adversely impacted because I know their numbers are somewhat limited in the body and they probably need a little assistance in looking out for themselves.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Maurstad. Senator Beutler, yours is the last light, would you like to close on your amendment?