

SPEAKER WITHEM: It is withdrawn. Mr. Clerk, I believe you have another motion.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Abboud would move to return the bill for specific amendment, that being to strike the enacting clause. (See FA648 on page 2068 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Abboud.

SENATOR ABOUD: Thank you, Mr. President and members. The purpose of the amendment is for discussion purposes. And I had a question about the consent and that's been clarified I think on the record. The other question I have is when this bill was presented to the committee, it was envisioned that it would be a way to help people that were living in rural parts of the state that had, let's say a county judge in their county but a district judge maybe a couple of counties away and this was a way to have the people closer to the courts and have greater accessibility; and with that goal in mind, I supported the bill out of committee and I support the bill today. My question is dealing with the more populous areas like Douglas County and Sarpy County. The way the bill is written, a person could be filing an action in Douglas County and go through the process of filing a divorce action in Douglas County or in Sarpy County or in Lancaster County, and I just wanted to kind of get your feelings about that because I don't think that the concerns and the problems that have been raised in rural...different parts of the state, greater Nebraska, where there may be a shortage of judges in certain areas where that same problem may not exist here, doesn't exist in Douglas County to the same level. And I would like you to address that concern and what you envision as far as for divorce actions which...or domestic relations actions that are filed in Douglas, Sarpy, Lancaster County.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator, my personal view of the matter is that...or what I'm aiming at is obviously efficiency, to get the greatest efficiency out of all of our judges and our system as a whole. In that regard, I think that far and away the greatest efficiency that can be attained in this bill will be in the more sparsely populated areas where judges essentially ride circuit and it may be that you have a county judge available there to you long before a district judge is available or without a