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Beutler says, okay, I understand why it's discretionary for a short period of time, so that the Auditor's Office can make structural changes in the way they handle these processes, but then, in the year...July 1 of 2001, it's appropriate that those become mandatory because we want to actually "incent" those structural changes in the State Auditor's Office. And, in fact, you'll see that the A bill for 86A (sic) reflects some of the money that the Auditor's Office believes will be necessary to implement those structural changes, i.e., additional electronic filing by local governments so that the filing form itself checks for some of these things and, in addition, the Auditor's Office has an electronic file with which to check for the kind of compliance that would be required by the bill if you adopt Senator Beutler's amendment. His characterization of some hesitancy on the part of the Auditor's Office is absolutely correct, but it's my belief, based on the conversations we had jointly, that the Auditor's Office now agrees with the amendment. But I would suggest to you that it is even more important, if this amendment is adopted, that the A bill that accompanies 86A (sic) go forward. Otherwise, the Auditor's Office will be placed in a considerable pinch, being faced with a required process in July 1 of 2001, but not necessarily having the resources available to them to actually begin the structural changes in their office that are necessary to accommodate that change on July 1 of 2001. So, in general, I agree with Senator Beutler's amendment. It does put the bug on us, however, to provide adequate resources for the State Auditor's Office to accomplish what we tell them we'll want them to do in the year 2001.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator. Senator Smith would like to announce the following guests are visiting the Legislature: eight students, ages kindergarten through ninth grade, from the Valley View Seventh-Day Adventist School in Scottsbluff, and their teacher. (Introduced teacher.) They're located in the north balcony. If you'd rise, we'd like to welcome you to the Nebraska Legislature. Continued discussion on the Beutler amendment, Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, Mr. President, members, I'm going to make kind of a quick decision on this today and I'm going to oppose Senator Beutler's amendment. Part of the trouble is here