

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office

February 11, 2000 LB 922

that. And my two comments are just this, first with respect to juvenile judges, I'm not intimately aware of the situation in Douglas County, although I know the statistics indicate they need more help than Lancaster County does. But I don't know how many of you took advantage of Judge Hendry's invitation to visit a court setting and go through some of the processes with them. I did that with the juvenile judges down here in Lancaster County, and let me tell you, if their workload is considered a good, reasonable workload, in my mind it comes up somewhat short on time. They process, of necessity, things very rapidly. And it's a little bit troublesome, especially with juvenile judges, that they don't have more time to deal in a rational manner with everything that's before them. So it seems probable to me that the situation in Douglas County, requesting an additional juvenile judge, is probably reasonable. Secondly, with regard to the eleventh judicial district and the district judge out there, for many, many years now the justification for a district judge there has been greater than the situation in many other counties. I mean out in Senator Wickersham's district, I will say it again, they have too many judges. But in the eleventh district, they're right next door to each other, they've been getting by, for years now, with two fewer district judges than the Scotts Bluff area. So what needs to happen probably is what's happening today, this district needs another district judge, and the Scotts Bluff district still needs one fewer, that's my feeling on the situation. So I guess the bill today takes care of a couple of good needs. Thank you.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Senator Beutler. There are no further lights on. Senator Brashear, to close on the committee amendment.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Mr. Chairman, members of the body, to stay focused, this committee amendment will add an additional juvenile court judge in Douglas County. You have before you, in the exhibit submitted by Senator Suttle, the statistics. The situation is compelling. The recommendation of the Judicial Resources Commission is unanimous and we urge the adoption of the committee amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Senator Brashear. You have heard the closing. The question before the body is the adoption of