

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

March 7, 2000

LB 414

imbalance as to what they feel is a fair salary. Maybe the...maybe the elected officials who are there are not being paid enough. On the other hand, their feeling was the other ones are being paid too much. And along with that, while you're answering that question,...

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay.

SENATOR VRTISKA: ...we come to the issue of the difference in their retirements plan, the difference in their insurance plan. How is all that going to come together so that there's some...a feeling of ease at...

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yeah.

SENATOR VRTISKA: ...at particularly smaller counties, where this makes quite a difference when you see...when you're talking about a ten or twelve thousand dollar increase in their salaries over the ones who are elected as sheriff and clerk and treasurer and et cetera? And I'm just trying to figure out how does this all play together.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yeah, Senator, those are all...those are all fair questions and let me begin here, I guess. A lot of the fairness and equity questions you can...you can look at them as they bridge different wages and different areas of government work, but of course two of the most closely related areas are...is the work of the clerk of the district court and the clerk of the county court. They do very similar kinds of work. And one of the things that I think this bill is going to be really good at is making pay fair and equitable as between those two groups of people who are doing similar kinds of work. I think you're right, probably in most of the small counties the pay scale is actually going to be higher once they come under the state system, and I understand how that...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...may...may cause problems in some places, but, on the other hand, I guess it's good for the economy of the local area and in terms of fairness to the people. So there's another side to that too, is all I'm trying to point out.