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LB 414

Vrtiska, followed by Senators Engel, Jones, Stuhr, and Redfield.
Senator Vrtiska.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. I just had a couple more questions and a comment with Senator Beutler, if I might.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Would you yield, Senator Beutler?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Senator Beutler, you...we continually talk about savings. I guess I look at taxes as taxes as taxes. They're going to come here or they're going to come to the counties, whatever. And I understand what you're saying, there may be some. But my question is more to the point, wouldn't it, in fact...couldn't it, in fact, cost more with these coming on the scale that the state pays rather than what they're paying now at the county level? I'm trying to understand why that you talk about a savings in this program when, in fact, if the salaries go up under the state and the retirement goes up and some of the other things go up, how can there be savings? I'm trying to get that rationalized in my head.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yeah. Well, Senator, the salaries well may go up in some places, they may come down in others. Until we see a salary study we won't know exactly how that will operate. But the savings or...I suppose can be described in two different ways. One, certainly it's a savings to the county in that they wouldn't be paying for it anymore. Secondly, I think very definitely, in the long term, by consolidating offices there will be savings, savings that will come from the facility of dealing with one kind of filing system. Before too long passes, Senator, there will be electronic filings by the lawyers. Instead of walking down to the courthouse and doing things, that will be facilitated if there's one office. There are a lot of things coming where I think the existence of one filing system and one set of people who are doing that is...will really save us some additional personnel costs in the future.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Well, okay. I...I still have a little difficulty because you say there would be some savings in some