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the committee amendments which will really be the point of discussion. amendment to the committee amendments The incorporates all of the committee amendments but one, and we'll talk about that, but it...the amendment to the committee amendments is the way it is for two reasons, because we've spent a year in further negotiations with all interested parties willing to talk and have come up with some additional small changes that make things better for primarily clerks here and there around the state, and so there are a number of these changes, and with the new changes in the Bill Drafting Office, they like to put a clean white copy before you that actually contains everything that was in the green copy, all the committee amendments, and all of the updated amendments. will move in that sequence. Let me give you the political landscape, as I understand it. This bill is strongly supported by your Supreme Court, who has the responsibility for administering the entire judicial system in the state of Nebraska. They are of the opinions, by and large, that I will be expressing to you today. Probably most of the good ideas in this bill come from them. The district court judges who work most closely with the clerks of the district court are in favor The clerks of the district court themselves of this bill. voted, by majority vote, to support the bill. That doesn't mean that there aren't a number of district...of clerks of the district courts out there who are not supportive of the bill. hope you will understand that since the clerks of the district court are currently county employees, with no uniform systems applying to them, that there are 93 different salary levels out different sets of office hours, 93 different 93 retirement plans, 93 different health plans. They're all over the board, and probably part of the equity and benefit of bringing them into the state system, if nothing else, is the matter of fairness and equity between people who are doing essentially ... effectively ... are doing the same kind of work one kind of county and in all of the counties, but being compensated in very different ways. And also, it brings their compensation levels into some kind of parity and comparability with the employees of the county court system. Looking at these two groups of people overall, I hope you would agree that there is a lot of sense, because they essentially do the same thing and have similar kinds of structures, that all of their salary