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technologies. And people are rightfully critical of us if we don't do that. If you really believe, as I really believe, that there are significant advantages to looking at the merger of filing systems that are now separate, one in the clerk of the county court and one in the clerk of the district court, that are separate merely because historically they have been separate, that there's no particular good reason why they should be separate, but you can't do anything about it because one is a county function and one is a state function, why would you not want to open up the possibility for change, for advantageous change, by making them both part of the same system so that then they can be further modernized and be in receipt of our most modern technologies? I don't know all of the facts about what the situation is with the state assessors and with the experiment that was part of the state assessor system. Apparently, a few of them that volunteered came on the state system. I don't know the facts and figures, maybe other people do, about whether they're really more expensive now or not. I've heard both ways, that they were more expensive at first but now they're not. In any event, this is, to me, entirely different. You're talking about the judicial system here, who has managers not only at the top of the system, but where the responsibility for the operation of the clerk of the district court's office would still be local, would still be local. The judges in the district would be the ones who would be responsible to see that the work in the clerk of the district court's office was done efficiently and at the very least cost possible. That sort of structure does not exist at all in the other situation which some have sought to make analogous.

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: So I don't think that any comparison between the two is legitimate, at least insofar as I understand those situations. And I would be interested in the facts and figures that indicate that that situation is a worse situation. But in any event, it's not nearly the same kind of structure that we're talking about. Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor.

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Stuthman, followed by Senator Redfield, Senator Brown, and