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is a good enough reason, at least for me, to say, yes, let's take this over and...but we're only going to take over part of it, not all of it, as Senator Stuthman, I believe, pointed out with the bailiff positions. But this is, I think, an issue that certainly needs discussion, and we need to address that, as that is necessary. But again, the bottom line is the cost, and I'm not sure that we should spend the money just because we have it. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Smith. Senator...further discussion? Senator Connealy, followed by Senator Hudkins and others.

SENATOR CONNEALY: Thank you, Mr. President. I yield my time to Senator Thompson.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Thompson.

SENATOR THOMPSON: Thank you, Senator Connealy. The first year I came to the Legislature, I was an appointee, so that was nine years ago, and I remember sitting here early in the evening, because it was dark, and discussing this same bill. When I was an elected county commissioner and I attended meetings around the country, one of the things that people were really astonished with is that we had...that this was not a professional position. And as a county commissioner, it always amazed me that the person who kept track of the court records wasn't a professional person. It was whoever handed out the most emery boards at the state...at the county fair. And we wouldn't even be holding this up if we didn't have people who got elected to these positions--they're wonderful people, they're nice people, they do a great job, but they're slowing this down within NACO. They always have. They're "thunking" on the county commissioners, many of whom are their personal friends. You know, the clerk in my county is a wonderful person; she's worked in the office for years. You know, that's fine, but let's compete for those jobs. Let's have them professional jobs. We can...you know, as a State Legislature, we should be looking out for the future of the state, for the efficiencies, for the best way for the court system to work. It's getting paid for one way or the other, whether it's your