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SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Beutler?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: I looked at the initial fiscal note, which is the only one that is on record, apparently, and that talked about \$13 million when it's finally implemented. Are we still talking in that nature on an annual basis?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator, at the end of the entire transition, the ongoing cost every year will be \$8.5 million.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: How did that get reduced from the \$13 million that we had initially?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator, I can't explain that to you at the moment, but I will look into that, but these are the latest figures that have been worked on conjunction with the Fiscal Office and with the Court Administrator's Office.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Thank you. I hadn't seen any supplemental fiscal note from the last one that shows on this, and that shows that \$13 million I was referring to, so thank you. I will look into that matter. My only concern in this is that we need to think in terms of dollars. We need to think, what are we getting for what we're putting out? And I'm not opposed to the bill, conceptually. I think it's okay in that respect. I just think that if I had my way, we would have a lot of transformation of the way in which we do work in the judicial office. It seems to me that...for years I've been saying that we have duplication in jurisdiction of the county courts, the district courts. I would like to see a total revamping, not one at a time, and it just seems to me that for us to decide that, without any appreciable change in government, that we are adding to the state's budget. And if you want to add, whether it's \$8.5 million or \$8 million or \$13 million, whatever is the ultimate figure, I think that's what we're dealing with, is whether we're going to do that. Currently, we have a system that I think everybody concurs is working quite well. Now perhaps there are advantages to the implementation of Senator Beutler's bill, and I know he's worked very hard on this, and I