

the chief medical examiner. Now this doesn't mean as Senator DeCamp explained in his presentations that we can telephone Dr. Jones out in North Platte because I question whether Dr. Jones in North Platte has the qualifications to serve as one of these district examiners. Looking at the monetary point only, and taking into consideration the cost for a medical examiner at \$162,500, simple arithmetic will advise you that adding four subdistricts will increase that cost by \$650,000. So we are no longer looking at an initial cost of \$162,000 but that has ballooned to \$812,500. This is just for the pathologist, their assistants, their secretarial help. So for this reason alone I'm in concurrence with Senator Maresh that we would certainly or should certainly learn to crawl and walk before we run. I am in support of deleting from this particular bill the provision that provides for district medical examiners.

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman, members of the legislature. I rise in opposition to Senator Maresh's amendment for the same reason that Senator Stoney approved it because I see it differently. Now to appoint district coroners or district pathology does not mean that we pay them or pay them salary or keep them on the pay roll. The thing that disturbs me is that we appoint Dr. Jones out in North Platte, but Dr. Jones is on vacation and the other two pathologists are there. Secondly, if we appoint four across the state it would appear that probably three would have to be located in Omaha and Lincoln because that is where the population is, that is where the murders occur for the most part. Then would you have one appointed somewhere outstate to travel all of the rest of the big area and it seems to me that it would be much easier to have these people appointed throughout the state, maybe a dozen of them, maybe two dozen of them that could do this work purely on a per diem basis, work as the work appears rather than have one person in Lincoln trying to do all of this work throughout the state. I don't think that it is feasible, Senator Maresh, I understand what you are trying to do but I don't think that it would work that way to save money. I think that it would cost money.

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Reutzel.

SENATOR REUTZEL: Question.

PRESIDENT: All right, the question has been called for. Do I see five hands? I do. All those in favor of ceasing debate vote aye, opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? Record the vote.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 7 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.