

merged. If you look in your book, since we have added an amendment out of the committee, there has been a revised fiscal statement which is down considerably in some of the counties that chose to respond to that request. It is really a minimal cost. You have heard, I know some of you have heard from your local county officials who are always concerned, rightfully so, about any time we add increased responsibilities on their office. I really think that those concerns are greatly exaggerated and greatly overblown. First of all, we put an amendment on this bill out of committee that clarifies that only once a year will they have to do this task. Secondly, we leave the methodology of combining the list to the county clerks and to the county election commissioners so that they can choose the method that is most efficient for them. I know, I was visiting with Senator Scofield here a minute or two ago talking about this process and this increased burden on the county clerks. I would like you to think back to your political campaigns. Very many of us when we run for office, first thing we do is we go down to the Election Commissioner or County Clerk's office, get a list of the registered voters in our district and we either...we do some manipulation with that. We either transfer those to cards. We manually copy down the list, whatever. We do some manual manipulation with that, that list, and, yes, it is hard work, and, yes, we would rather not have to do it. But it is a fairly minimal sort of thing in the overall running of our campaign and we usually do it with a couple of volunteers in a two or three day period. That is the type of manual manipulation we are asking these county courts to do. It is a fairly minimal sort of procedure. I would like to point out to you that the Nebraska Association of County Officials both years examined this bill, both years saw no concerns with it and remained neutral on the bill. It hasn't been the lobby group for the County Officials that have been opposing this bill. I would like to talk just for a second about the theory of this bill and why it is so important to our system. First thing we have to ask, and I hope some of my attorney friends who are going to be following me will get into this in a little more of a theoretical basis than I can as a nonattorney. The first thing we have to ask is, what is a jury? According to the American Bar Association, the role of a jury is to determine fairly and impartially the facts of a case. The purpose of a juror, according to the Supreme Court, in a case called Taylor vs. Louisiana, is to guard against the exercise of arbitrary power, to make