

in Douglas County. We passed out to you last time and I'd be glad to pass out to you again should any of you be interested, the work load statistics for the juvenile court and I hope you will remember that they were quite impressive and that the work load is heavy in Douglas County and I hope you'll see fit to advance this bill at this particular point in time to relieve that particular situation. I'd ask for the advancement of the bill, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Higgins, then Senator Warner.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Mr. President. I would just like to add to Senator Beutler's remarks that this bill is not requesting the Legislature to add another judge to the juvenile court. It's merely to replace the one that was already there. If we don't do that, if we don't do that, there are going to be literally hundreds of juveniles, young offenders, that will be held in our juvenile detention center and it's not what I would call the best of places for youngsters to be held. Not all of them are before juvenile court for committing crimes. Sometimes it has to do with divorce cases and as I say, we're not asking for an additional judge. We're only asking, Senator Haberman and Senator Hartnett, we're only asking to replace the judges that we now have, just one judge that was always there. So we're not going to increase anything. We're just asking to replace them. And I'm awfully glad I finally got Senator Hartnett and Senator Haberman's attention. I would remind you that some of your constituents who don't live in Douglas County may have your children visit Omaha one day and if they got picked up for shoplifting, they would probably go, if it was a minor amount, before a juvenile court. I don't think you'd want to see them held for weeks because we don't have enough judges to hear the cases fast enough. It's a bill really for children, not for judges and not for adults. It's a bill that would keep the process of justice moving and as the old saying goes, justice delayed is justice denied. So I'm asking you to vote for this reconsideration before you for this bill that's on special order. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Warner, then Senator Labedz, then Senator Lamb, then Senator Lynch. Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, I had a question for Senator Beutler.