

SENATOR WESELY: Yes.

SENATOR HIGGINS: If you want to clean this up and if you want me to vote for it, just take out "in which a city having a population of 300,000" is out of there and make it "the local registrar for any county."

SENATOR WESELY: Yeah, let me explain it...

SENATOR HIGGINS: That would take in all the 94 counties, wouldn't it?

SENATOR WESELY: It does. The bill itself does, Senator Higgins. Very briefly, Senator Miller had a bill that we passed, LB 42, that changed the way we handle birth certificates. As a result the bill as introduced which had the fee apply to everybody in the state had to be changed through this amendment because we exempted out Douglas County from the changes in Senator Miller's bill. So because of that, this is a committee amendment to reflect the change in procedure that Senator Miller passed several months ago and so everybody in the state will be paying the same fee. This is just to reflect in the committee amendment a change in that procedure. So we don't just discriminate against Douglas County. The fee will be applicable across the state and it's the same fee for everybody.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Would you have any objections to taking that out of there then?

SENATOR WESELY: No, it's in the original bill, the fee. This is an adjustment.

SENATOR HIGGINS: But you're amending the bill and if you adopt the amendments...

SENATOR WESELY: No, this is an additional reference to make it clear how we handle Douglas County now that we've made the change that Senator Miller invoked. But I'll promise you that everybody pays the same fee everywhere in the state. It's not just Douglas County.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Well, I appreciate your promise, Senator, but this is going to become law. This is going to be a statute and this will change the reading of the bill.