

SENATOR SMITH: Yes, okay. So I do have a couple of other concerns regarding this. When I was looking through this, I find that on page 12, lines 13 through 15, there is a statement made, "No reimbursement shall be allowed for travel from the home of an individual judge to his or her primary service location or from such location to his or her home." This I feel is something that...it would have nothing to do with cronyism or any of those other things that you are talking about, I think it is reality...

SENATOR BEUTLER: Which page are you on, Senator?

SENATOR SMITH: On page 12, so they are stating right here that there will be no reimbursement allowed for travel from the home of an individual judge or for his return. When you are in western Nebraska and I guess I consider western Nebraska almost to start from Lincoln, but it gets more western as you go across the state, distance becomes greater between points, and if you were in Lincoln or Omaha, you wouldn't have to worry about that if you were a judge, no doubt, but if you were in the other part of the state, the number of cases that you could even take on would be very much dependent upon the distance between in addition to the fact that you have no reimbursement as a judge. So that is something that I would have as a concern with this unless there has been some change that I am not aware of or that you could address here. And the other thing is that, you know, you were talking a little bit about the caseload being one of the considerations and you did mention travel time, and I find on page 13 where they do speak to that, where they say the determination shall be based on the Supreme Court analysis of the caseload, the travel time, and other factors. I guess I would be concerned about, you know, if they do take all these things into consideration, what are the other factors, or what do they mean by that statement "other factors".

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, let me address the last question first, that portion that you are reading on page 13 describing the "other factors" was a criticism that was made by others previously and that part has been deleted from the committee amendments by the amendment to the committee amendments that we just adopted.

SENATOR SMITH: Okay.