

total picture is if LB 832 would not advance, we would have to make a readjustment and add 500 or the exact number of the cut back into the...to the fund or back into the Supreme Court budget so as to negate what the benefit of the bill would have been. And that's not necessarily technical. You have to find the 500,000 plus dollars somewhere. But that's what would have to be done. I want to reemphasize again part of the reasons for this bill, 832. This particular bill is not one of those packages that we're trying to gain revenue in order to restore cuts, and I want to try to emphasize that a little bit. What this particular bill is doing is trying to help us fund the county automation project. The county automation project, and I think the discussion we had a few days ago on this bill, opened some eyes of some of the senators about what this old 814 county automation project is. And, in fact, it's been one of the most worrisome, and that may not be the proper word, but one of the areas of deep and high concern that the Appropriations Committee has about the flowing out of this particular project. And as a conception, the projects of the county automation was very, very good and very...the goals were very lofty. When we got into it, actually what Nebraska is actually trying to do is...is really far beyond what any state has tried to do, and because we did have some high and lofty goals we also have run into some problems because though the computer, certainly, hardware was there, the software wasn't there. And, in many cases, we had to design the software specifically for what we had, plus we had programs already existing in the county...counties that we did not want to totally eliminate until we got this automation totally on line. There has been...there have been delays, there have been obstacles of technology and programming that had to be overcome and there had to be some interagency interplay of how the agencies were going to work with each other and particularly on the funding part. And, quite honestly, it's cost a lot more than it was projected. One of the concerns of the committee is, is there an end in sight? And we believe that there is, particularly with the other legislations that we have passed earlier this session, supplemental appropriations and what have you, and I know there's going to be some type of continual study and breakdown on this particular project. LB 832, in essence, would free up so that General Funds would not have to be used to continue this particular program onward, of which we've already committed a vast sum of resources.

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.