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(Neb.)-Nebraska Sheriffs Want Counties To Set Their Fees

By: Dennis and Kathi Brown Posted at: 12/23/2012 07:33 AM

By GRANT SCHULTE

Associated Press

LINCOLN, Nebraska (AP) - Nebraska sheriffs are planning to ask for a law that would let local county commissions set the fees they can charge for gun permits, subpoenas and other services.

The sheriffs say the current fees don't cover the expenses they incur on a daily basis, forcing counties to make up the difference with their general funds. That means the services must be paid by all county taxpayers, rather than the person requesting the service.

Ogalalla Sen. Ken Schilz says he is working on a measure for the upcoming session that begins in January.

Grant County Sheriff Shawn Hebbert says giving counties the authority eliminates the "one-size-fits-all" approach that forces his rural western county to charge the same amount as heavily urban Douglas County, which has a much larger tax base.