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kind of intrigued by Senator Mills' suggestion that if we... what would happen if the Legislature did not confirm any individual for this position? Would the Political and Accountability Commission just not function or what would happen?

SENATOR SAVAGE: If we do not confirm these appointments, they are automatically confirmed...they will be able to serve without being confirmed until they are rejected. They will have the full responsibilities of carrying out the duties as required by LB 987, if we do not reject them.

SENATOR CULLAN: Thank you very much, Senator.

PRESIDENT: Senator Keyes.

SENATOR KEYES: Mr. Speaker, I want to ask Senator Savage a question. Senator Savage, disregarding Terry Carpenter completely, does that committee of Political Accountability... will they be able to function and will they be able to delve into the political people that are elected to office and find out the things about them that this legislation demands? Will they be hamstrung? Will they be confined and will they not be able to function as a committee?

SENATOR SAVAGE: There's no reason why they couldn't. They have been appointed by...3 by the Governor and 3 by the Secretary of State. If they are not rejected by this Legislature...our committee only has the power to recommend to this body either rejection or confirmation. On the basis of his statement to our committee that he would not serve and he definitely stated that to us and to me privately, that he would not serve unless he was granted immunity. It was in the press. That's the only basis that I voted on.

SENATOR KEYES: Of course, I was disregarding Terry Carpenter. I wonder if the other members of that committee...if they were to come in and to find some senator or some elected official or someone serving in a political atmosphere, if they have lied on their report and they bring it out, would they be able to be sued? I mean, this is the thing that I'm concerned about.

SENATOR SAVAGE: I'm not a lawyer, Senator Keyes. I don't know what the legal ramifications of that would be.

SENATOR KEYES: Is there anybody that can give me an answer to that? Senator Luedtke can you give me an answer to that? If any member serving on this committee and should find out that some senator or some elected official would be lying about his qualifications, about his financial status and about his ability to serve in this, would that person who found him out serving on this committee could he be sued?

SPEAKER LUEDTKE: I think there are plenty of protections with the Tort Claims Act providing, not an immunity of course, and there shouldn't be any immunity. Immunity is only when we set up a specific immunity by law. That's our constitutional position in Nebraska. We do have the Tort Claims Act, though, which says a person doing his duty, if he does it in the line of duty, he is more or less protected. Every case depends upon the facts of that particular case. I couldn't stand up here and decide a case for you or tell you even on

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