

CLERK: Read record vote. 11 ayes, 20 nays, 13 present and not voting, and 2 excused and not voting. Vote appears on pages 1625-1626 of the Legislative Journal.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Motion lost.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Schmit now moves to amend the committee amendments. (read Schmit amendments)

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: I want to say first of all that I agree with everything that Senator Lewis has said here this afternoon. There isn't a member in this body that is here because of the salary. There isn't a member of this body that wouldn't be here if the salary were one dollar a year or \$10,000 or \$20,000 if they had their choice about it. I think that it is absolutely ridiculous to sit here day after day, year after year, and I have been here for ten years talk about the miserly salary that we are paid and plead for mercy from the people of the State of Nebraska. I think that everyone of us has in our mind an idea as to what it cost each of us to serve in this body and we do it notwithstanding that fact. We have had a variety of different proposals offered to the voters of the state. Interestingly and it has been reported in all of the various media from time to time that the people will not buy this amendment because they are afraid of what will happen or what won't happen. For that reason I offer you this amendment which is on the desk today. This amendment places the responsibility for legislative salaries squarely where it belongs, with the members of this body. There is no hidden meaning, there is no one that we can blame, no more of this monkey business that the Congress goes through where they say we didn't want that but we had to stand there with our hand behind our back hoping that some other member of Congress who comes from a safe district can say yes we took that raise it was forced upon us by that commission. We really didn't want it, we thought that it was terrible. We really are not worth \$5,000 a month plus all of the vey amenities but we had to take it, we had no recourse. The amendment which I have offered is this. It takes 25 members of this body voting to say that the members of this body shall receive one dollar a year or any other amount that you decide upon. Then we individually go back home to our membership and say yes, Schmit voted for that bill. Schmit said that we were worth \$400 a month or \$4,000 and if you don't like it you can throw me out. You take away all of the subterfuge, all of the monkey business, all of the hiding behind the pillar, all of the going to the restroom