

member of this body, the notion that Senator Schmit has of removing from the Constitution the salary limits of the salary levels that are presently obtained of the State Legislature. However, we all know what the voters seem to enjoy doing. They seem to find legislative salaries their one time to vent their general spleen at the state of affairs in government, whether it be federal government, local government or state government, or whether it be the situation at home. Now it seems to me that even if we were to adopt the Schmit amendment and to remove from the Constitution the salary limit and to say simply the state Legislature could set its own salaries, a concept of which I agree, we in this Legislature might well establish a commission to determine the appropriate levels of legislative pay, just as the Judiciary Committee did and this body did last year with the Hays report, to come up with some general figures to help us out. We might well take that approach. I think the better part of discretion is for us to go with LB 99 to establish the commission form of salary setting, to give of course the Legislature the last word as to whether the commission recommendations are appropriate or not, the Legislature as you know can approve the recommendation, reject the recommendation or modify it and make a conscientious attempt to persuade the Nebraska voter that this is the right way to go. If we get this job accomplished we will then have taken care of the negative aspect of the salary situation itself being in the Constitution. Yet, we will have demonstrated that we are willing to handle this manner in a wise and judicious fashion, probably the kind of fashion that we would do for ourselves. For that reason I respectfully request the body to reject the Schmit amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, fellow legislators. I heard some beautiful oratory the other day about how we have to raise the judges salaries. We have to raise them to attract qualified men. This order went on and on as to how we have to do this. Well I campaigned that I would be a good legislator and I feel that the 70 days that I have been down here I have been a good legislator. I am ready and willing to stand up on my feet and say I would like to have a raise. I would say that everybody down here is qualified. Everybody down here is doing a good job. You have to beat your own drum and I will even say that Tom Vickers is doing a good job, although I don't agree with him all of the time. So I would support this amendment of Senator Schmit's to put the monkey on our back. I might even be inclined that you call