

I think their only alternative if we continue is perhaps to purchase a piece of 4 x 4 and administer that individually to the representatives of their district. So since we have been so unfortunate some might consider, in having something done with the compensation I would suggest ladies and gentlemen that no further consideration be given to the adoption of LB 99.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DE CAMP: Mr. President, even though it is so late in the day and I'm taking time from my own wonderful litter bill, I felt that I had to say something. I don't think that I have ever listened to a bill, a piece of legislation where so much information was available and not one ounce of it was ever used. Now I can make certain statements here today and I'm willing, if Paul Douglas won't arrest me, back them up with bets. Bet number one: You name the dollars within reason, under the felony, anyway, if you put this on the ballot it will pass in the form the committee has it. Why can I say that? The research is there to show you. In the fifty states where the issue has been tried, where you have a situation almost identical to Nebraska, the only way the legislators have been able to get salary increases is to put it in some type of citizen salary control committee. That is essentially what you are doing here. Don't take my word for it. The evidence is there. The research should have been done, should have been laid out on your desk and I'm sure that somebody can get it and present it to you. You put it on the ballot, statistically this measure will pass. Bet number two: If you put this on the ballot, if and when it passes, the salary will be higher by almost twice, the average salary will be higher than in states which lock it into the Constitution with a fixed amount or have the salary set by themselves as we had proposed. Incredible as it sounds, it is a statistical fact. Don't take my word for it, check it out. Check you NCSL statistics so on and so forth. If you really honestly want a salary increase, and I think that we are justified in having it, take it completely out of your hands which is what you do, turn it over to the citizens, is what you do, it will pass, you will get a reasonable salary increase. Now, why have these other things failed in the past? Precisely because they have been deceptions. I think that it was about four years ago that I stood on this floor and offered a similar concept and Senator Syas stood up and told me that wasn't the way to do it. We had to use the trick amendment. You can go back and check the record and read it, where you say the Legislature shall receive "not more than". I said but you are trying to deceive the public into thinking that you are actually limiting something when in fact