

SPEAKER MARVEL: I'm sorry, Kahle amendment.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I believe that the real crux of the issue here is local control and I am surprised at Senator Vickers' testimony. He is one of the persons in this Legislature that most vigorously defends local control, except in this case. In my case, I represent ten counties. I have more sheriffs than anyone else so this puts me in a real difficult position. However, I also have more county board members. But the real issue is the local control, and I think the people in the counties are more critical and are more concerned about law enforcement than probably more than any other issue, and if there is not, in fact, adequate law enforcement in the county the pressure on the county officials will be intense to do whatever is necessary to acquire that law enforcement capacity, and so I say to you leave it up to the county board members. The local people will put pressure on them to increase the salaries if that is what is necessary. Now, in a number of the smaller counties which I represent the sheriffs' salaries as mandated by this bill would be increased considerably. However, in Douglas County, Senator Chambers, as I understand it, this will not affect that county. So what Senator Chambers is saying, let's raise those salaries and put those small counties in a bind, whereas it will not affect Douglas County because the sheriff's salary is already above the minimum as called for in this bill. Therefore, I stand to support the Kahle amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator George.

SENATOR GEORGE: Thank you, Mr. President. Are we talking to the Kahle two amendment which would cut out the salary section completely? Is that correct? I do want to point out again, and the best way to put it on a rational basis would be to use that chart which you got on your desk this morning. Number one, the state certainly dictates a minimum salary and I don't know why anybody should be upset about that, and when I always hear these complaints that we are meddling in local affairs, I didn't hear anything from the county officials when we raised their mileage from, what was that 18 to 21 cents? Was that meddling in local affairs too? We are setting a minimum salary, and if you look at that memo given to you this morning, that chart, for instance I got two counties in class 2 where the median salary for a sheriff is \$11,400. Now if you project till 1983 when this law would take effect and you are assuming a ten percent inflationary increase, cost of living increase, which, of course, it is not because right now we are already at fourteen,