

February 25, 1980

LB 628

so this is a conservative way of figuring it, you are arriving in 1983 when this law would take effect at \$16,690. LB 628 proposes \$16,500. That is \$190 less than this projected cost of living increase would be. Then in addition to that, by 1983 that elected sheriff is locked in for four years. So I think this chart that was given to you is incomplete because we should have projected another four years of cost of living increases and then you know what you would get. You would certainly get somewhere around \$20,000 and the proposal here is \$16,500. So I just don't know why we continuously talk about those high minimum salaries that we are setting here. If you look at that chart, and if you really want to tell me that that is high, then I would like to have some factual mathematical discussion on that, and not just some emotional feeling that this is too high. Look at the chart and then you know where we stand, and I am certainly against the Kahle amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, I will be very brief. Senator Hefner, more is at stake here than local control. We are talking about law enforcement. I don't think anybody in this Legislature would want to see a county pay a sheriff \$3000 and say, well if the citizens don't like the kind of service they are getting from the sheriff, vote him out of office and get another one that you give \$3,000 to. We are trying to stop the turnover. If we have trained people, then the experience is going to improve on that person's ability to carry out his or her duties. So we want to not turnover a sheriff every election, and if we are going to put on additional duties and the burden of training, then there ought to be a decent salary offered, and if my memory serves me correctly, didn't you, Senator Hefner, come before a committee of which I am a member asking the state to give considerable money for local law enforcement purposes? Didn't you do that?

SENATOR HEFNER: Is that a question?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes.

SENATOR HEFNER: What bill was that?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: 388, or whatever it was.

SENATOR HEFNER: Refresh my....

SENATOR CHAMBERS: You remember...you came and you were asking