

March 3, 1981

LB 206, 206A

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Cullan.

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I think Senator Kremer raises a very excellent point with respect to why this bill should be unbracketed and why we should attempt to pass it at this point in time. I think it is to our advantage to try and have this issue resolved in the courts as soon as possible. From my perspective, I fail to understand why it is proper for us to receive expenses during the interim if it is not proper for us to receive expenses during the session, which is, of course, the point in time when most of us do our work and when it is more expensive for us to maintain our existence here in Lincoln. And I just fail to understand the constitutional arguments that it is proper during the interim but it isn't proper during the legislative session, and I think Senator Chambers is appropriate in getting this resolved as soon as possible, and the sooner this issue is resolved one way or the other, the better off that we will be as far as pay raises are concerned I think. And as far as timing is concerned, Senator Kremer, if this issue passes early in the session, Senator Chambers and others will have an opportunity to litigate the issue early and that will be resolved before November of 1982 when the issue will be before the voters. And so I think it is wise of us to resolve this just as soon as possible and I applaud Senator Chambers for bringing the issue to us and for doing the research behind it to convince a number of us that it is, in fact, a good proposal.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I am supporting the unbracketing motion if, indeed, the bill is legitimately ever bracketed, and I would just make a matter of record something at this time. Number one, the motion you passed that has locked this bill up and others was dramatically different than what you passed in previous years. The motion says that all these bills that have basically any impact whatsoever on the General Fund are going to be locked up until after, after the Appropriations bills are all passed. Now I have done a little checking on it and you are talking about a couple hundred bills. All the major bills of the Legislature are going to be sitting there to be decided I am going to guess on the last day or so of the Legislature with everything created into a jumble again. It is a major change from the way you have done it in the past in terms of what the procedure is. I think there were two votes