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LB 475

Senator Hoagland has the ballot language with him and so I would yield the rest of my time to Senator Hoagland because he can speak directly from the printed material.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I have here a copy of the constitutional provision that was approved last November as incorporated in LB 82, passed by us last spring, and Senator Maresh is correct. Section 9 of the bill that Senator Chambers would amend tracks exactly subsection 3 of Section 30 of Article V of the current Nebraska Constitution so we simply do not have the discretion as I see it to adopt the amendment that Senator Chambers is proposing. In other words, the Nebraska Constitution specifically provides that these judges are to continue to serve without loss of salary and we do not have the authority to provide otherwise and if we do, our act would be unconstitutional. So I think that this moots, really moots out Senator Chambers' amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: There is a change in the amendment. The Clerk will read the amendment,

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Chambers moves to return the bill for a specific amendment. The amendment would read: (Read Chambers amendment found on page 1101 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, that new language would be added at the end of line 16, following "retirement". Now let's discuss just a moment what has been stated by Senator DeCamp, Senator Maresh, and, Senator Hoagland, come back, Senator Hoagland, T want to ask you a question. Senator Hoagland, that amendment which was passed, adopted by a vote of the people, is it a self-effectuating amendment? Is the language selfeffectuating? In other words, does it immediately take effect, right now? Or does there have to be legislation?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Well, any, it is in effect. The amendment has gone into effect now, Senator Chambers, and is part of the current Constitution of Nebraska and we cannot enact by legislation a provision that conflicts with that.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Then, Senator Hoagland, what do we need a bill for? Why are we wasting time and money for a bill if the fact that the language has been incorporated into the Constitution makes it a part of the organic law of the state and is in place and operational right now?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Well, that is a good question, Senator Chambers. I would guess that we have to do it for some