

March 25, 1981

LB 531

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Stoney, Senator Lamb, speaking to the kill motion.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I urge you not to kill this bill. I think that Senator DeCamp's logic makes some sense but even beyond that the \$800 figure is the only possible salary advance choice that we have and this bill is much better than the bill proposed by my colleague right here LB 138, which would not have any chance of passage. So, I suggest not killing this bill, considering the DeCamp amendment and advancing it.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Kahle.

SENATOR KAHLE: Mr. Speaker and members I also rise to support the idea that Senator DeCamp has brought forth. I think that no matter what we do with the salary we haven't faced up to the problems that we have in the Nebraska Legislature until we talked about the cost of being a senator. Nebraska is strung out considerable, a lots of states are, but it is a long ways from Lincon to Scottsbluff. It is a considerable ways from Lincoln to Kearney. I have kept records over the past several years and I would be glad to share those with you sometimes what it really costs me to be a senator and the big share of it of course is expenses. The salary doesn't do much, I'll tell you, and you all know that. I don't think that we should just stick with one bill and say, \$800 is what we are after. We need to also do something about the expenses. As I said before on this floor and I imagine that you are getting tired of it, but I would whole lot rather work for one dollar a year and expenses than what we are getting now. So without the expenses we really haven't done very much. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Wesely, do you wish to be recognized?

SENATOR WESELY: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, the concern I had was that if you did have two issues up on the November ballot you...concerning salaries of legislators there would be a great deal of confusion and the Attorney General has indicated the problems involved. However, Senator DeCamp has proposed to with the idea of the amendment of dealing with the expense question, if that is placed on the November ballot along with a petition drive placed question concerning salaries, I think that both could be passed and they wouldn't conflict and they would both be acceptable, I think, so I think that takes care of my problem which was that you have a constitutional problem with passing perhaps two Constitutional amendments that conflict at the same time.