

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, shame on you Senator Chronister. Shame, shame! You said this was not an increase in salary bill. Not a pay raise bill Senator Chronister said. But it does in fact increase. It does in fact increase the county court judges some 20%. Now if that isn't a pay raise, I don't know what it is. I stand and say, let's oppose this bill. Show me another branch of government where the salaries are tied to one department. It is going to be easy for them to come in and say let's give the supreme court judges a raise. It is the highest court in the state. The people have the less contact with the state supreme court than with the county court or the district court. The citizens have very little contact, practically none, with the state supreme court. So, I would say that it has a higher rating than all of the rest of the courts so it is going to be easy to come in and say let's give those poor supreme court judges an increase. They took the job like we did. They didn't have to. So I'm not going to go off on that tangent. But let's say that there is one facet of the judges that don't do a good job. The district court or the juvenile court or the county courts or let's say there are some that are not doing their job. They are not moving fast enough, they are not spending the time. They get the increase automatically. Chief Justice Krivosha is doing a fine job. The supreme court is doing a fine job. But we are saying all of them are going to do such a fine job let's tie them. I don't believe that we should do that. I just don't think we should do that. Also, I don't think that we should increase any salaries 20% at this particular time when you know taxes are going up, costs are going up, everything is going up and we want to say to the citizens we are going to take one select group and increase their salaries to approximately 20%. I don't think this is correct. I would like to leave it the way it is. It has been working. Why fix something that isn't broke. I commend the Judiciary Committee for working on this and for coming out with this bill. I sat on the committee, I understand what they went through. But, I have to rise to support it.....not to support it, I have to rise to oppose the bill and particularly the part to get the 20% increase. Thank you Mr. President and your honor.

SENATOR CLARK PRESIDING

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I was just sitting out this bill, listening to