

March 30, 1981

LB 111

SENATOR CHRONISTER: Yes. Mr. Chairman and members, I think Senator Johnson accurately characterized the Workmen's Compensation Court issue. He called it a tempest in a teapot, and that is not the issue. The issue is a rational method to determine salaries. Another point, this formula does not take effect until 1983 and we can look at it again next year or the year after if we must. Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President, I call the question.

SENATOR CLARK: The question has been called for. Do I see five hands? I do. The question before the House is to cease debate. All those in favor vote aye, against no.

CLERK: Senator Clark voting aye.

SENATOR CLARK: The question is cease debate. Have you all voted on ceasing debate? Record the vote.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 1 nay to cease debate, Mr. President.

SENATOR CLARK: Debate has ceased. Senator Chambers, do you wish to close?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I will be very, very brief. I think the issue is clear and from the discussion that some of the Senators offered this morning, it seems to me that they do understand the significance of the issue. So I will not belabor the point any further. I hope you will vote to indefinitely postpone this bill and allow the Legislature to continue to have some measure of oversight and place some degree of accountability on the judiciary. And just one other comment, this judicial qualification system remember was put in place through the instigation of the judges themselves and under it, even if one of them is under indictment, he continues to receive his salary. I wonder if the Governor were under indictment, would he be allowed to continue receiving his salary? And you can take these things right on down the line for every other official and see that the judges are trying to create for themselves a separate status which is above every other citizen where they are accountable to nobody, must answer to nobody but are allowed to take from the treasury as they will. I hope you will support this motion.

SENATOR CLARK: The question before the House is the