

like have had experiences with, and subjecting this body to the hassles that we have to go through every year or every other year when every group of judges comes down and independently lobbies us for judicial salaries, does not really address at all the issue of the bad judge. That can be taken care of by filing a complaint with the Judicial Qualifications Commission. There are other methods for doing those which I will address later. Now, in conclusion, let me just indicate what this bill does do. I think it is a very important step in providing the best possible judiciary for our state. Now, I know that all of us when we review legislation involving a judiciary have one paramount concern, and I think the floor debates eight days ago really lost sight of what that paramount concern is. And, frankly, all other considerations when it comes to dealing with legislation involving the judiciary are far down the scale and the paramount concern is simple. And I think we all understand it, and that is that we must do all in our power in the Legislature to assure that the most qualified men and women in the state are interested in serving in the judiciary and once there are free to do their job in the best way possible. Now, the only way we are going to get the best men and women to serve in the judiciary is to treat them with dignity and respect, and with a dignity and respect quite frankly we do not enjoy from the majority of the voters in this state that set our salaries. But the fact that we are not treated properly, in my personal opinion, in our salary setting function, the way it operates under the Constitution, doesn't mean that we should turn around and strike out at the judiciary. I mean, that's not going to help anything. And I think our singular goal here, and when we evaluate legislation of this sort, the goal we have constantly got to keep in mind is in ten, fifteen and twenty years what is going to maintain the high quality of our judiciary.

SPEAKER MARVEL: You have one minute.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: All right. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Now let me just say in conclusion that as was said before this body in January, as anyone who has had experience with the law can tell you, no lawyer and no lawyer is better than the judge before whom the case is tried. The best of the lawyers must be those who are willing to come to the bench. If not, all else is for naught. Nebraskans deserve the best and not just what can be obtained. Now this bill is an important step for a variety of reasons that we'll have a chance to air this morning in bringing about the best qualified people to serve in the bench of the