

April 7, 1981

LB 111

State of Nebraska, and for that reason I would urge you to reconsider this, bring the bill back, permit us to consider amendments that may be necessary so we can keep the issue alive for this session or next. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I think the body spoke very decisively in its 26 to 18 vote to indefinitely postpone this bill, and I think it ought not change its position. But I would like, since we are dealing with the record, to ask Senator Hoagland two or three questions.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Yes, I would be happy to respond, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Hoagland, do all levels of the judiciary perform the same function?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Senator Chambers, we have about five different kinds of courts and two of them are courts of general jurisdiction, three of them are courts of limited jurisdiction. No, they don't all provide the same function.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: An appellate is different from trial. Would you agree?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: That's right.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: All right, now do all of these courts, let's say all of the District Courts so we are dealing with one level, do they all have the same workload?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Senator Chambers, it is my understanding that they don't but there are other methods of dealing with that problem without holding their salaries hostage.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Now, have there been such imbalances in some of the areas of the state that last year we added one judge, I think a county judge, and this year...or a district judge, and this year we are being asked to add another district judge to Lancaster County due to the inequity of the workload distribution?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Senator Chambers, I think we need to deal with that issue, but the rise or fall of 111 is not going to affect our power to deal with that issue if we want to.