

April 7, 1981

LB 111

you say, how does this tie in? Well, it ties in in two ways. Number one, the average citizen ties the county attorney and the judges and everything into one ball of wax and you mention plea bargaining and they automatically think that the judges are in on it with the county attorney and they just don't like the whole set up or the system. Now in this case at this point the judges had nothing to do with the plea bargaining, but on down the road they will be involved in the plea bargaining because they have to get involved. So I can't explain to my 30,000 people and I am sure there are some other Senators on this floor that can't reach all of their citizens to explain the problem.

SPEAKER MARVEL: You have a minute.

SENATOR HABERMAN: They hear about the salaries. They see the salaries. They compare them to their salaries, and they don't know whether the judge is entitled to more salary or not. But when you tie them together, they understand this and they don't like it. They just don't like it. I am not opposed to giving increases, but I am opposed to tying it together. This is a bad thing to do and I ask you to vote against the reconsideration of 111. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Fowler.

SENATOR FOWLER: Mr. President, I was out of town also when the bill was debated, and I want to make it clear I was not in court with Senator DeCamp. I have supported LB 111, but I do not support reviving it. I think the issue has had full discussion twice in this Legislature, once on General File and once on Select File, and there comes a point on all legislation when it has had its day in court, if we can use that phrase, when it has had an opportunity to be debated and discussed where everybody pretty well has their opinion and there is no need to discuss it further, and I think that is true for LB 111 in this session. There are a tremendous number of bills on General File. There are a few bills on Select File. I think reviving LB 111 on Select File to consume more debate for this session is unnecessary at this time. It is obvious from the debate this morning that even if there are votes, even if the lobbyists and the judges and so on have worked on enough votes to revive LB 111 that it will not have smooth sailing, that there will be lengthy debate, that Senator DeCamp will be presenting an amendment to adjust one group of judges, that we may see other amendments to adjust the percentage for other judges, and we will go through the same old process that we have gone through