

have the flexibility to do that negotiation in good faith without the Legislature attempting to impose itself over one or the other of the two negotiating sides during the process itself. The one suggestion that was made that those salaries could have been paid out during the current year I cannot specifically respond to to why that was not done. I gather...I assume from at least one Supreme Court decision this perhaps is a practice. I don't know directly if that Supreme Court decision mentioned or affects directly the University of Nebraska, but in any event, the funds are reappropriated for UNO in a like dollar amount that the rest of the campus or any other agency had during the current fiscal year and I think that is where the issue should be dropped by the Legislature.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I share Senator Johnson's concern but this is not the proper place to try to get even for an issue and Senator Warner is correct when he states that if we believe in the art of negotiation professionally, then that procedure must follow through. Even though those staff members at UNO haven't had an increase since 1980, that is due to the process where impasse has been reached and the court is going to make the final determination and I wouldn't want to be guilty of taking out a recrimination act against the Central Systems and the administration because of this because the Board of Regents properly handle it like the school board does when it reaches impasse with its professional staff and that is not unusual. We go through this quite often and I remember LB 15, too, as passed by this body and it was with some agonizing by the membership but they passed it but it is a fact in the State of Nebraska and I think we should allow it to work freely and then live by the decision of the court in the best interest of those who seek relief. So I would oppose Senator Johnson's amendment to try to get at the Central problem through the Central staff and administration. That is not a fair way to reach equity for all parties involved.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Newell.

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President, members of the body, I'd like to explore just for a second Senator Warner's comments. Senator Warner, you indicated that we, something, by the way, I very much agree with, that we should not try to be the bargaining team for the University or the state agencies. I agree with that totally. Basically a policy setting team, that is our responsibility as a Legislature is to set policy and to appropriate funds but we do have a concern about fairness and we do have a concern about whether or not the policies