

April 30, 1981

LB 560

amendment. Senator Maresh, do you have a close? Okay, all those in favor of adopting the Maresh amendment to LB 560 vote aye, opposed vote no. Have you all voted? Have you all voted? Senator Maresh.

SENATOR MARESH: We have only 27 people voting.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Maresh, what's your pleasure? Record the vote.

CLERK: 12 ayes, 19 nays, Mr. President, on the motion to adopt.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The amendment fails.

CLERK: Mr. President, the next amendment I have is offered by Senator Burrows. (Read the Burrows amendment as found on pages 1670 and 1671 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR BURROWS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, this amendment would take \$400,000 and it is distributed through the campus so that by putting a limit on the salary increases between \$3200 and \$3400, they could achieve this amount. It takes \$12,000 from the Central Administration budget. It takes \$388,000 from the UNL, UNO and Med Center. It splits this down by taking \$168,000 from the UNL total appropriations, \$12,000...or UNL, that was; \$12,000 from UNO appropriation, and \$208,000 from the Med Center budget. Now the intent of this amendment is to have the Regents limit in dollar amount whatever that \$400,000 specifically figures out to be, the total of any salary increase, and that total would range somewhere between \$32 and \$34,000. We were working with 419 salaries of which I have passed out copies on your desk that deal with Central Administration, UNL, UNO and the Medical Center. Of these 419 salaries, they amount to \$19 million, just slightly over \$19 million. The 9 percent increase on these 419 salaries amounts to \$1,710,000. Now by simply limiting it to from \$32 to \$3400 we are saving \$400,000 of the taxpayers' money. I would like to put in perspective with the legislative salaries. Maybe if we make some cuts like this on the highest salaries in the state, the people would give us a \$32 or \$3400 salary increase for the next three years, and I don't think anybody would be dissatisfied in here with that, if we could be assured we got something like this each year for the next three years. I think the public is tired of seeing these huge salaries take huge increases where the top salaries get more increase than the bottom salaries get in total amount of salary. I believe that high salaries are in order to a degree, but I think it