

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Haberman, for what purpose do you arise?

SENATOR HABERMAN: Point of order.

SENATOR CLARK: What is your point? State it to the Chair.

SENATOR HABERMAN: I asked the Governor about the increase, Senator Higgins, and he said he did not care whether the increase was granted or not. So there is the answer to your question, Senator Higgins.

SENATOR CLARK: That is not a point of personal privilege. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, Senator Higgins raised some good points. I am surprised she is still going to vote for the bill. I think that there are a number of points that should be raised in opposition to the bill even as amended. Number one, I remember that our present Governor ran on a platform of cooperation with the Legislature and then when we provided a constitutional amendment on the ballot to increase our salaries through a compensation review commission and he talked all about cooperation except when it came time to do something that was right and that was to provide better compensation for this body of legislators. He was not anywhere to be found, never said a word, did not help us in the least. I do not think that was very helpful to us quite frankly and I have never heard him since talk about the fact that we are underpaid. When Senator Goodrich talks about comparisons of constitutional officers salaries versus other states, I think you can talk about \$40,000 here and \$50,000 here and that sounds just terrible that they do not make that \$50,000 but when you are making \$4,800 a year it does not quite sound like that bad of a situation I do not think and I guess my feeling is if the Governor, I don't know if he seems to care a whole lot about whether he gets this additional money. He is doing pretty well as it is. I think he has got his housing and his transportation taken care of and other items, but it would be nice if he cared a little bit about us for a change, if he cared a little bit about our situation because quite frankly I think it is unconscionable to have a legislative body, whether it be this state or any other being paid as low as we are. And yet we have a situation where our Governor has not helped us and I think to turn around and provide him with a salary increase when he does nothing, in fact, to assist us is wrong. In addition let's talk about the other constitutional officers. I have a resolution concerning the state treasurer and state auditor. I quite frankly don't