

one child on ADC gets, \$10 a month increase. I think they are going to get about \$230 a month now to live on. That is all I have to say on this bill at this time until closing. If anybody else wants to speak in favor of this, I would be happy to hear their reasoning in view of what your own Governor has told you, to toe the mark, to be fiscally responsible. So I would like to hear the arguments for increasing these salaries. Thank you, Senators.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Cullan.

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I would like to make several points in response to the amendment which Senator Higgins has brought to the body. The first point I would make is the Governor has not, to the best of my knowledge, been requesting that the Legislature increase the salary of constitutional officers. He certainly has not contacted me or have I seen him lobbying this issue to push for an increase in his own salary and so I think one thing that all of us should know is that he has not been exactly begging the Legislature for an increase in his own salary and so I think I just want to make it clear that that has not been his position publicly or otherwise that I know of. The second thing is that the chief executive of the State of Nebraska, in my opinion, is not highly paid. I do not think that we pay the executive officers of the State of Nebraska, the other constitutional officers and many of the department heads of the state sufficiently. It is difficult to obtain high quality personnel in many of the branches of state government because of the low salaries that we do pay executive officers, both directors of different agencies and as well as, I think, the other constitutional officers. So I really believe it is unwise of us to cut back at all on the recommendations that the Government and Military Affairs Committee made. I think the Governor's salary should be considerably in excess of the \$50,000 that the Government Committee recommended to us but I am willing to go along with their proposal and I wish that we would make significant changes in all of these salaries considerably beyond what the recommendations are. If anything, we are being too stingy with these salaries at the higher levels of state government and in the long run the people of the State of Nebraska pay for it by not being able to attract the kind of personnel we need to run state government. Another point I would make is that a small increase from Senator Higgins' perspective in the ADC program has a very large significant effect on the budget of the State of Nebraska. I don't know