

May 29, 1981

LB 488

bill this year and I think it is the ideal time to lay it over.

PRESIDENT: Okay. Senator Kahle.

SENATOR KAHLE: Mr. President and members, it is true that it is not absolutely necessary that that bill pass this year, but you are running against a deadline early in the session next year. And I am not sure how fast we will progress but that determination of salary has to be made in the case of an incumbent 75 days before the May Primary and 60 days for a nonincumbent. So you are running yourself into a hole, I think. I think this is foolishness not to face up to this issue. If you don't like the figures that are in the bill, let's change them, but to put it off until next year, we are going to put ourselves in a bind and we will have to pass that legislation during some of the first weeks in the Legislature because if we don't, of course, then I expect they will have to run on the same salary they are running now... or they are getting now, if that is what you want. But if you expect to have the salaries so that they can pay their filing fee on whatever salary you set, it has to be done very early in the next session. And so I think we are being foolish in not facing up to it right now.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Cullan and then Senator Higgins. Senator Cullan was ahead.

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, we have debated this issue several times. There is absolutely no reason to lay this bill over at this time. If we do not like the bill, then vote against it. But let's read it, let's decide the issue. Let's let the Executive Branch do with this bill as they please. But let's not pass this issue over. Let's not duck this issue at this time. Let's face it and meet it squarely. I see no reason for us to pass this bill over. Now is the time to take some action one way or another.

PRESIDENT: Yes, Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, we need to address LB 488 this year. Today happens to be the last day of the current session, therefore, this is the time it needs to be addressed. Right now we can say the dollars in LB 488 are for the next person who fills the position in the next regular term. By next spring there may be candidates already and it would be much more difficult to be talking about the office instead