

May 29, 1981

LB 488

of the individual. I strongly support the need for passage of LB 488 this year. It actually will mean dollars into government at whatever level rather than postponing the same decision next spring. Time is of the essence. This is the day LB 488 needs to be passed.

PRESIDENT: Senator Higgins, finally.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Thank you for your patience.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Mr. President and Senators, I don't understand how someone introduces a bill, they fight for it on General File. They spend hours of the Legislature's time for it on Select File. I even asked the introducer of this bill, it's a little ironic that the top offices we are considering increasing salary are all the opposite party of the introducer, but he said that there is reasons for doing that, and I am sure he had a good one. But I find it unbelievable that the introducer of the bill, who has fought so long and so hard for it, is at this time excused and I will bet everybody in here a dollar and a half that when we come back to 376, he's back. So, Senator Clark, would you yield to a question, please? Okay, Senator Clark, why do you want to lay over the bill?

SENATOR CLARK: In the first place the introducer is not here, and I understand he wants to lay the bill over. There is absolutely no reason for the bill this year. There will only be four bills on Final Reading and if you can't read those the first two days in the next session....

SENATOR HIGGINS: Talk on your time, Bob, I just wanted the answer. So the introducer isn't here, but he made the motion and then he got excused. Now we will see how sincere the introducer is if he comes back to vote on 376. My point is this. Let's do it today. We have wasted too much of our time deciding whether or not we should up these salaries or not. I agree on one of the rare times with Senator Marsh, let's do it today. Let's show the people of the State of Nebraska that we are not here to waste time. You are either for the raises or you're agin' them. So, I say, let's go ahead and vote on this bill and if the introducer of it doesn't think enough of it to be here, and if he had some good and valid reasons not to want you to vote for it today, I can't understand why he wouldn't be here to give us his reasons or at least why didn't he tell his friend, Senator Clark, why