

February 11, 1982

LB 662

raise the salary, this was to be a stopgap measure to go only until 1983, January of 1983. So this bill is designed to complete that agreement and end the fee as of January 1st, 1983. A number of counties have raised the sheriffs' salaries in the meantime, others have balked. But I think Senator Nichol, offering the amendment that he did, has called attention to the seriousness with which the Legislature views the obligation of counties to pay a fair salary to the sheriffs. So with the momentum that seems to be developing and the fact that a number of counties, a substantial number have acted in good faith as far as dealing not only with the sheriffs but with the salaries of other county officers, I am asking that you advance this bill and the only thing it will do is to say that that \$10 jailer fee which a sheriff gets as long as prisoners are in jail will be abolished as of January 1st, 1983. Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I rise to support Senator Chambers. I had one of my county officials call me and say that there is a possibility of their sheriff refusing to be the jailer. He is going to keep his high salary and he is going to refuse to be the jailer and force them to hire somebody else. And I have it indicated to me that some of them are not going along with this, they have taken their increase but they still want the other. So I feel that the bill is very necessary and I would like to support Senator Chambers in his efforts on LB 662.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Rumery.

SENATOR RUMERY: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I would like to ask Senator Chambers a question if I might. Senator Chambers, you are asking to remove this \$10 a day fee. What do you suggest in its place? How will the sheriff be paid for feeding the prisoners?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Rumery, this has nothing to do with the feeding of the prisoners. This is a separate fee which says that when he has somebody in jail, then simply for being there as the jailer he gets \$10. If nobody is in jail, he doesn't get it. The portion that deals with the boarding of prisoners is in a different section of statute and this does not touch that at all, only the jailer fee.