

March 22, 1982

LB 488A

effect they called it an appropriation bill. And if that would be true of this one, you know, whether you have got the A bill or not the cost is going to be there and again it is straight-up to put the A bill out. So I guess, Senator Goodrich, from no more than I know at the moment I certainly would oppose killing this. I would hope it would be advanced and if adjustments can be made somewhere along the line that compensates for the cost, then I would have no problem with it. But I would hate to see the concept of the A bill circumvented because it would set a very poor precedent for a whole lot of other legislation.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Burrows.

SENATOR BURROWS: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I would have to oppose killing this bill at this point, although I am going to oppose the constitutional officers' salary increase. I think it is totally unfair to increase these salaries when the lower paid state workers are not getting their increases in salaries. I think this would be a real miscarriage of justice. Now if there is 5000 I think was the figure I heard that can be taken to cover these constitutional officers' salary increases within the agencies, it looks like it is an admission that the constitutional officers that the appropriations for these agencies are already \$5000 too high. Or is it going to come out of potential salary increases for the lower paid workers? I don't think we should kill this bill and try to sneak it out of the ongoing appropriations. I think it should go up-front and be a direct cost if it is going to be there or else we should go back and kill the bill, LB 488, and then take \$5000 out of each of these agencies if we are really out to save state taxpayer dollars. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Goodrich, will you close?

SENATOR GOODRICH: Yes. Mr. President and members of the body, would Senator Kahle and Senator Warner both follow through on what I am about to say here because I fully intend to try to amend 488 so that the raises that are in the bill now are going to be changed to the same kind of a principle like the 5 percent increase that we did for the judges' salary bill that was proposed for the judges' salary bill. So the fiscal impact which, for example, for the last half of this particular fiscal period we are about to appropriate money for, this coming year, the fiscal impact would be \$33,880, but that will be substantially reduced by virtue of amending the thing to a 5 percent increase for each of the constitutional officers each year. Now, consequently