

March 29, 1982

LB 603

take care of Senator Schmit's concerns and Senator Haberman's concerns. It is an amendment that I understand Senator Haberman and Senator Kilgarin have offered and I would like to withdraw my amendment at this time, Mr. President, if I might.

SENATOR CLARK: All right, the amendment is withdrawn. We will take up the Haberman and Kilgarin amendment. The Clerk will read it.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senators Haberman and Kilgarin would move to amend the bill. (Read the Haberman-Kilgarin amendment as found on page 1450 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I believe I can live with this and I believe the people in my district can live with this. I feel they are entitled to an increase, so if we put it on the same increase that the state employees are getting, we have a sunset clause in it that it can't go over three years, because if you multiply it times three it gets pretty hefty so we can take another look at it at that time. It stops the option. It saves the dignity of this body and the dignity of the courts. I would strongly suggest that you support this amendment. It is fair. It is honest. It is upfront. It doesn't hide anything. And as the state employees are treated so will we treat the courts as in essence they are state employees also. I will give the rest of my time to Senator Kilgarin.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Kilgarin.

SENATOR KILGARIN: Mr. President and colleagues, this amendment was offered by Senator Haberman and myself which is unusual I think just from the outset and I think it shows you that it is a reasonable compromise. Senator Haberman suggested this probably four or five weeks ago to me one day in the hall, and I think it is a very reasonable compromise. It will eliminate the auctioneering that is going on right now on the floor with regard to the judges' salaries. I think it is a fair and equitable proposal. It will tie the judges' salaries for two years only, '83 and '84, to the state employees' increase. I think that is fair. I think it is the right way to go. It is probably not enough. I mean, I have sat through quite a very long hearing in Judiciary Committee on the judges' salary bill where I think all members of the Judiciary Committee would admit to the fact that some type of