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LB 488A

SENATOR KOCH: The question is, when is the last time the Legislature got a raise?

SENATOR KAHLE: It has been a long time back in, what...?

SENATOR KOCH: Since 1968. Are we surviving?

SENATOR KAHLE: Not very well.

SENATOR KOCH: Have you ever heard any of those people get out on a limb for us and ask the people to give us a raise?

SENATOR KAHLE: No, I haven't.

SENATOR KOCH: Thank you, Senator.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Higgins.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Mr. President, I would have a couple of questions of Senator Kahle if he would yield. Senator Kahle, if we give the Governor a \$4,000 salary increase, I don't even know what all the other constitutional officers get, but taking all of them combined what is the total fiscal impact for the four year term or even for one year?

SENATOR KAHLE: I can't give you that right off, Marge. It wouldn't be that hard to figure. I think the Attorney General gets \$38,000. I believe the other constitutional officers get \$32,000.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Well between the Attorney General and the Governor that is \$7,800 and the others get \$32,000...that is another \$6,400 so then add on to that Social Security and the other things that they get...I'll tell you what, I'll vote for this 10% salary increase for all the constitutional officers in spite of everything else if we give all the state employees a 10% increase. Is that fair enough? I mean, I think they deserve it and they are working and when I think of those...in fact, I'll make it different. If we start at the lowest paid state employee who is making \$590 a month and then give them a 10% salary increase January 1st and the rest of them a graduated scale up to \$40,000 or \$50,000, whatever the highest paid state employee is so that the lowest paid gets 10% and the highest paid would end up getting 2% or 3%, then I'll vote for the constitutional officers to get 10%. That is fair enough, isn't it?

SENATOR KAHLE: No, you're not looking at it correctly. All the other state officials and people that work for the state did receive an increase every year in the last four years but the constitutional officers did not.