

April 16, 1982

LB 488

So people are going to say, well, gee whiz, don't you want to help a member of your own party? No, for the same reason I voted against the city sales tax for Omaha last year. Fully expecting an in-law of mine to be the mayor, I still voted against the sales tax which they told me Omaha would need desperately. So this is a tough decision for me to make and I really believe that the judges deserve the increase and the constitutional officers, and if we ever have it where the Governor pays his own utilities and pays for his own house and doesn't use it for fund raisers, then I will vote for a salary increase for the Governor but now I am going to have to vote against LB 488 since we have put the judges in there. I was going to vote against it all along but the judges, gee, I really wanted to see them get the increase. So everybody else can vote like I am going to have to. If you are between a rock and a hard place like I am, why just go with your conscience.

SENATOR LAMB: The Chair recognizes Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President and members, I certainly hope that you will not kill the bill. Now let me kind of talk to Senator VonMinden. He was concerned about the process and how it just seemed to change and so on. It is kind of like a race track or going to the races in here. You start out the season with kind of the slower ponies and some of the slower things like, well like starting out at Grand Island. You move onto the little better tracks and by the, you know, by the height of the season when things are really going fast, you are like at Aksarben and those ponies are going by fast and things are happening a little quicker. What has happened is the process with 25 votes decided that they wanted to put Judges' pay on a particular pony that was kind of whistling by, 488, add another jockey on it, the constitutional officers. But the process was followed, public hearings, input from everywhere. If the Governor chooses, you could have your input there and influence to get him to veto this portion or that portion, that would be the proper approach. I would suggest to Marge if she supports the one concept, she should vote for the bill and do everything she could then to get that portion she disagrees with struck out by the Governor in a veto. But I urge you not to kill the bill. I think the Governor's last pay raise was, what, 16 years ago. Ours was at least as long I think too. But anyway, the bill is modest in its increase. I think it is the same as the state employees, so I would urge you not to kill the bill, go ahead and advance it and use whatever influence or pressure you can