

April 16, 1982

LB 488

SENATOR LAMB: The question has been called for. Do I see five hands? I do. All those in support of ceasing debate vote aye, those opposed vote no.

CLERK: Senator Lamb voting yes.

SENATOR LAMB: Have you all voted? Record.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 3 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SENATOR LAMB: Debate has ceased. Senator VonMinden to close.

SENATOR VON MINDEN: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, all I want to ask you is vote your conscience. Although maybe it was germane to the bill, it is wrong and you know it is wrong to tie one major bill to another major bill. I, too, feel sorry for the people making \$32,000 but I do not feel sorry for the judges making \$48,000. I inquired to a couple different secretaries just recently about how many hours the judges work. You know what they told me? Fifteen to twenty hours a week, now maybe not all of them that way but some of them that way. I just want to say again \$40,000 is a good job. They have it until they are 72, then they retire with a pension that will boggle your mind. The rest of the time I want to give to Senator Schmit.

SENATOR LAMB: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I am not going to comment upon how long the judges work. I think they probably work many hours that the secretary might not recognize. I am certain that they are hard working judges. I am not talking either about and I won't argue with Senator Cullan about whether or not the salaries are adequate. I think they may be inadequate. I know there are many salaries that are inadequate across the State of Nebraska today. I know that many business men are finding themselves in an inadequate position and I believe that in those kind of times it is inconsistent as I said earlier to raise the constitutional officers when we do not find the funds and the resources to raise many other employees, and I come back again and say that there are many business men today who would like to raise their employees but whose business will not justify it. There are many employees who work in the private sector who deserve a raise and are not going to get one. It is totally...I guess I would like to be optimistic and say the economy is going to turn around in