

March 6, 1989

LB 147

where those judges are going to go. I think the last time we had a new judge in this state was 1980 and that went out west and so that is what this commission will do. They will determine the area of most need and reference it then. Once they determine that there is a vacancy or a need there, then a whole other system kicks into place and that is the nominating commission. That is what everybody is familiar with. People apply for a judgeship, they interview them, the Governor appoints out of two or three or whatever, but it is a need base.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Yeah, thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit, please. Senator Loran Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members, I rise in support of LB 147. I think that the introducers have mentioned some of the deep concerns they have relative to work load. We recognize that in some instances there is a disparity between districts, but nonetheless, sometimes because of geographical distances it is impossible to even out some of those work loads as much as they would like to do but recognize also the fact that many times the district judges must assist the Supreme Court which further thins their ranks and reduces the amount of time they have available for their own legitimate work load. One of the concerns that many attorneys and many citizens have is the ability to get a case heard and to get the case expedited in an orderly manner and the judiciary is very concerned about that to the extent that the work load makes it impossible for the court to function in an orderly manner. We think that we ought to do what we can to try to relieve some of that load. Therefore, I support the bill, support the concept and I hope that the bill will move.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Lindsay, please.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Question.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. You are the last light on so it won't be necessary, but thank you anyway. Senator McFarland, did you wish to close for Senator Chizek?

SENATOR McFARLAND: Yes, thank you, I will in Senator Chizek's absence. I will just note that there were a number of proponents to the bill and no one spoke in opposition. It did advance unanimously out of committee. I think from the tenor of