

for the purpose of dividing the question.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Yes, thank you. Senator Chambers, you are dividing out the Governor from the remaining constitutional officers?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes, will stay a group, right.

SPEAKER BARRETT: That is certainly divisible. No question about it. Which section would you prefer to talk about first?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: The Governor.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The Governor.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The Chair recognizes Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, and members of the Legislature, Senator Hefner, I was being somewhat facetious in saying 3 percent, but as pointed out, this is going to cover a period of four years, so if you did average it out, it might come out to what, seven, or six, or something like that? But it is less than if it were for one year, and then that increase will occur yearly. If we started out with these salaries at an equitable level, then we could build in the increments that we figure state employees might get, and then each four years total them up and give that amount. But as has happened in so many other areas, these salaries have lagged behind what they should be. This is an opportunity to place them at a respectable and fair, somewhat fair level, and from this point on, we could make smaller increases. What the Legislature did last session and the Governor agreed with it, and I am appreciative of the fact that it was done although it didn't put a nickel in my pocket, is that we raised the salary of the members of the Board of Parole to a level that was more commensurate with what it should be. It was not as high as I would have liked it to be, but it was much better than we had been doing. So this that I am talking about now is only the Governor's salary, and I doubt that there is anybody who could honestly say that a \$75,000 salary for the Governor, when certain lawyers for public agencies or political subdivisions make almost that much, \$75,000 is not unreasonable at all. Somebody is always going to say you get what you pay for. If you don't pay anything, you