

protect, as a last resort, protect the rights of the individuals. I don't think that we can...that we want to put people who are less than qualified in there and by paying less that's what you get. And if I could refer to Senator Chambers, if I could just point out to him, a wise member of this body, intelligent, well respected, well read, admired, once said on the floor of this body, quoted industrialists and said if you pay peanuts, you get monkeys. I suggest to you let's not pay peanuts, let's keep our judiciary strong.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Kristensen, followed by Senator Chambers.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President. Senator Lindsay, I didn't say that. I would like to respond a little bit to some of the charges here. I think every one of us probably have a beef about ways the judges have ruled, about their demeanor upon the bench, and I would venture to say that every one of the judges probably have a beef with us for the type of legislation that we may pump out and make them rule on and they probably get very frustrated with the care that, for example, I talked to Senator Peterson here just a little bit ago and some frustrations about taking care of foster care, and about how judges, we don't like the sorts of things they do. Well, sometimes we're the ones as a Legislature that have created that nightmare for them to deal in. I would think that I could probably share with you a number of stories where I'm frustrated at the rulings that I got for particular clients. And I'm angry because maybe I didn't win, maybe I didn't get treated as well as I thought. But, quite frankly, in the long run the system works real well and I'm very satisfied with that system. But the problem is, that I see, is going to be...we're going to continue to fall further and further behind in the payment of judges. If you want to compare what judges make to some of what our other public sector attorneys make, the Dean of the Law School makes \$115,000. The Omaha City Attorney makes \$84,000. Even with the bill as it is, we won't get up to those levels for two more years and certainly their salaries are going to continue to increase. If we would solely base our decisions on pay, on an isolated ruling here or there, Senator Chambers didn't bother to go ahead and read you the full opinion about why the judges came to the decision that they came to. And if you would give me the cite, I will probably go find that case real quick and give you the Paul Harvey rest of the story. But I think it's important for us to look at that if we adopt the