

said it's a prestigious job. Prestige doesn't pay the rent. Prestige doesn't buy food and prestige, you can only take it so long. How many members of the Legislature do you know, former colleagues, who had to leave the Legislature, even though it may be a prestigious job, had to leave the Legislature because they just simply weren't paid? If we take those same arguments that we heard in the 1988 general election, arguing for an increase in pay for the senators, take those same and apply them to the judiciary, I don't think we have any choice but to vote for this bill. We simply have to have quality people and we can't do that by paying minimum wages in a profession where the people are getting much higher than that. Again, I urge the defeat of the amendment and the advancement of the bill.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Chambers, followed by Senator McFarland and Senator Hefner.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, Oscar Wilde said, imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, and Senator Lindsay has really flattered me this morning, but he's just slightly off the mark. Senator Lindsay, there was no bill that offered a 20 percent increase to any of those constitutional officers; and if you would have looked at the fact that my amount that I proposed for an increase would be spread over a period of years, it wouldn't come out to the 20 percent increase at one fell swoop. What this bill proposes to do is immediately give a 20 percent increase and then, based on that higher salary, give automatic built-in increases on top of that 'til we reach the point that Senator Hefner mentioned of almost a 50 percent increase by the time this process is over. You go from 66,000 to 96...something like ninety-six point nine thousand dollars. So the two situations are not the same. But, again, that was not in the bill, it was an amendment that I offered, as I often will do. But let me tell you about "Default Williams" because I understand some are waiting with bated breath. I had successfully resisted a charge brought against me because it was brought under an unconstitutional provision. Judge Gradwohl ruled it was unconstitutional and dismissed, so an amended complaint was filed. I went to trial on that and some of these other things that I'm not going to take the time to tell you about occurred, but I was convicted. And you know on what basis I was convicted? "Default Williams" applied the unconstitutional standard that Judge Gradwohl had thrown out, on the basis of this standard you're guilty. I couldn't wait 'til I got out to talk to the media. I said, will you read what that