

indignation that I feel. But having denied myself the luxury of the use of that kind of language, I have to try to find ordinary English to say what it is that I feel. But this is one of those occasions and this is one of those subjects that requires something stronger than ordinary language. So, as a result of that, I have got to speak on a number of occasions to try to make the point. I'm going to support Senator Haberman's motion. I will not support the bill, but it comes closer to making a decision that has a bit of rationality.

PRESIDENT: Time. Thank you. Senator Haberman...no, excuse me. Senator McFarland, followed by Senator Hefner.

SENATOR MCFARLAND: Thank you, Mr. President. I'm listening to some side comments here. I will compose myself. Senator Baack is in his usual good humor today. When you appear before the judge in any court, you don't always win the cases that you think you should win. And sometimes that's the...the hard reality of the matter is no matter how hard you work or how strongly you feel about a case, you sometimes don't get the decision that you're satisfied with. You have a right to an appeal. It's something that can be done and you get a fair hearing before the higher court. Now, that doesn't mean that the system is unfair necessarily. That doesn't mean just because you happen to lose a case that you feel very strongly about that the decision is wrong. The fact of the matter is that the courts in our society have been a forum in which the poor, the impoverished, the indigent have been able to have a fair hearing that they would never get here in the Legislature or before the executive department. The judiciary provides a forum for people to come and air their grievances and even provides, if they're too poor to afford a lawyer, a mechanism whereby they can have a lawyer appointed for them. Those kind of procedures are available and the judiciary is one of the strengths of our entire form of government because if we didn't have the judiciary where people could bring their grievances before an impartial judge, our society would break down because we certainly do not have those type of...the individuals being able to have any influence in the Legislature or the executive department. The question is whether we want to pay those judges a fair salary. What is fair? It's all relative. To my way of thinking, fairness is determined by the comparable wages paid to other attorneys in the public sector and the private sector and make a comparison and see what it is and compare it to what our judges are making in comparison to judges in the other states.