

that of the Chief Justice, and then the others follow suit, and I mean this amendment. I'm going to try to achieve with money what cannot be achieved through dedication and honesty. I'm going to try to buy a competent, honest judiciary. Will Rogers said America has the best politicians money can buy, I want to get the best judges that we can purchase, and this amount should put us in the running. We can get some of the lawyers out of their high-priced, mahogany paneled offices and put them in the marketplace, and that's really what we're talking about with this bill to raise the judges' salary. I'm as serious as a gallstone...Senator Baack's comment was too good to let go, he said that maybe it will pass. (laughter) This role of which I'm a part consists of very clever people. I've got tall, steely-eyed, former athlete Jim McFarland on my left. I have somewhat shorter, unassuming, very low key, highly intelligent, dry-humored Senator Baack on my right. I'm too modest, as I said earlier, to describe my attributes, but one of them is that I can be persuaded and one that would be added to that is generosity, if I can be shown that generosity is going to achieve a worthwhile goal. If, through the expenditure of money, we have a better chance of getting females on the bench, fine; non-whites on the bench, fine. And I'm not saying that there would be an automatic uplifting of the entire quality of justice in this state because although with bread a little leaven leavens the whole, we could not expect a few people sprinkled here and there throughout a system as bad as this one to completely change its thrust or to improve it entirely, but they might serve as an example and show the people what a judge ought to be, place a higher expectation in the minds of the public with reference to people who serve as judges. If my amendment is adopted we will increase that \$66,000 by 50 percent. That would be \$33,000. They would be making, when they can first legally be paid this amount, \$99,000. That should be enough to perk up the interest of some of these lawyers out there who, but for the small salary, would consider being judges. As a matter of fact, when those who sit on the nominating committee, commission, see what this salary is, they'll put their own names into the hopper. They'd all like a little bit of that long green. Senator McFarland said that their salaries should be doubled or tripled. This is a giant step in that direction. Instead of wearing the ballerina slippers of Senator Haberman's amendment and taking tiny, mincing steps, I'm putting on the seven league boots and we're going to cover some territory of substance immediately. So I would expect Senator Kristensen, Senator Lindsay, Senator