

judge, and that means that it is about a 13 to 13 1/2 percent bump is exactly what that is rather than the 20 percent bump. It also leaves in place the other two 7 percent increases coming down the line. The fiscal impact of my amendment would be in '90-91, the fiscal impact would be \$523,000 over what is now expected, and in '91-92, the fiscal impact would be \$1.6 million. I think that, you know, we have had a lot of discussion. The numbers have been bounced around. We have gone down to...we have had amendments that dropped it to 7 percent. We have had amendments that talk about dropping it to 5 percent. Then the original one is 20 percent. We've talk about 50 percent. All of those have been rejected. I think that this compromise down to about 13 percent is not going to quite get us to the median of judges salaries but I think it still puts us a step in the right direction to providing a salary enhancement for the judges and, hopefully, by doing that, we will also be able to enhance the quality of the people who want to serve in the judgeships in this state. With that, Mr. Chairman, I would just urge adoption of the amendment. I will be happy to try and answer any questions if I can. Thank you.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Thank you, Senator Baack. On the amendment, Senator Schmit, please.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, as I have said earlier, we get into this sort of auction all the time, and it is sort of a demeaning thing, I suppose, and I do not know how you get around it. Apparently, we do not. I really don't know what to say. At this point, I, Senator Baack, probably will not support your amendment and that is probably the height of foolishness on my part because it is a much more generous amount than has been offered previously with the exception of Senator Chambers amendment, which didn't get exactly overwhelming support. But my concern is I guess the attitude or the approach that we take to judicial salaries. We argue, we debate, we posture, we engage in all the usual rhetoric and that is part of the system I guess, but we totally are exempted from participation in the really major salary discussions that affect the taxpayer of the State of Nebraska and the persons who do most of the work for the State of Nebraska, the state employees. We are out of that process. I do not know and I have not tried to determine exactly, I visited a little bit with our former colleague, Senator Rupp, about the salary increases for the university, but I want to point out that those university professors salaries have increased I am confident by a substantially greater margin