

knows what he achieved. There have been times in the past when a smaller percentage increase than this was sought and it was fought much more strenuously and the judges know that. So this is like one of those sales that they talk about at these stores where they mislead the public. They will tell you it's half price, but they never say half of what. What they will do is raise the price and then cut what they raised it in half and what you pay is still more than the original price. So the judges are not getting that big mark-up but they're getting more than they expected, and more, in my opinion, based on the way we do things here than they're entitled to. But I'm not going to do anything to try to amend the bill further, to try to delay it. But I still think the amount, since they've got those other two increases built in is too much. It should have been 7, 7, 7.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Schmit, please.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members, I'm glad I hadn't written that congratulatory note to Senator...to the Lieutenant Governor, upon his retirement, telling him how much I valued his services. But, for whatever it's worth, Mr. Governor, you have exercised your prerogative and I recognize that and I would have chosen a different time for you to use that if it were up to me. Senator Chambers, yesterday, made a reference to the judicial system and reference to the Franklin investigation and, Senator Chambers, if I can chide you just a little bit, one of the comments you made was that they had to look into the money matters in the Franklin investigation and so with just a little bit of a twist of the knife I appreciate that remark and I hope that the judges follow your suggestion and that we do not limit the grand jury investigation to the nonfinancial matters. And I do not know how appreciative the judicial system will be, but, given the nature of the discussion and the debate, and I would assume that most of the news letters that go out this week will boast about how the Legislature once again exercised it's economic restraint and insisted upon making the judges accountable. And so, with those few remarks, why I'm not going to say anymore. I don't think it's adequate but then I have never...I have never received everything that I thought was adequate on this floor yet. I know it's a matter of compromise and I appreciate those of you who did support the bill and who did support the amendment as long as you did. And the battle may be over but the war is not over, so we'll live to fight another day. Thank you.