

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Haberman, followed by Senator Chambers.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the body, we have debated on this floor an increase in salary for the judges and one of the reasons, or one of the biggest reasons that they are overworked, by giving them more pay, they will be able to do a better job. Now we are faced with also adding two more district judges, and to me, the two don't really fit. So possibly we should give whoever it is we should give it to a choice. Do you want the salary increase, the retirement benefit increase or do you want two more colleagues? I don't think they should have both. That's having the whole pie. I mean, that's great if you can get it. I don't think it's right. They can wait a couple years or next year. You know, it takes an awful lot of gall to come into this body and say, we want an increase in salary and also we want more people to help us out when one of the reasons that they were overworked. I oppose LB 880 and give the rest of my time to Senator Chambers, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Haberman, had you been Senator Chizek relinquishing time, you'd be saying you're giving your time to Senator Joe McCarthy. But I'm accustomed to that. That's all a part of the vigorous debate that we ought to engage in here, and if I can dish it out, I've got to be able to take it, and if the worst punch I have to take here is the powder puff punches that my good friend Senator Chizek landed on me, then I'm in very good shape while here. But he talked about rumors. Yes, there are rumors. Senator Chizek, may I ask you a question? When you were stating the reasons as to why the judges recused themselves, have you discussed this with any of the judges?

SENATOR CHIZEK: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Which ones did you discuss it with?

SENATOR CHIZEK: That is immaterial.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: No, it's not, it's very...because you brought it up.