

they are dependent on what we do. I think the editor of the Lincoln Journal is entitled to express any opinion he chooses. The press must be allowed to be irresponsible, it must be allowed to be wrong, and we expect them to be wrong, but we should not base policy on an error which we know is an error. There is no other category of employee in state government holding the status of ours. So I hope you will vote to override in this instance.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Madam President, members of the Legislature, I wanted to comment and mostly for information. The...Senator Chambers indicated that, I believe I understood him correctly, that the veto does not reduce the personal service limitation for the Legislature, and as a result of that not being reduced, if we could find the money why then of course the amount could be appropriated...or could be spent for salaries in lieu of something else. My understanding of what the Appropriations Committee put together and what I've seen for projected expenditures, it would be very doubtful, in my mind, that this expenditure could be made because the Legislature is no different than what occurred in a number of other agencies, as I understood it at least, in which reappropriations of unexpended balances were taken into account as to determine what the total budget would be. And so there are other things for that, if it's correct, approximately 2 million, that is already obligated in the various programs under the Legislature for that money. It would be my assumption, if you do not override this, that it would be the intent of the body not to make the merit distribution at this time. And I say that for your information. I did not vote for it...to put it in the bill, probably will not vote for the override. But I want you to understand, at least from my perception, if you do not, I'm going to take that as the direction that the merit pay should not be done.

SPEAKER BAACK PRESIDING

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Warner. Senator Rod Johnson. Since we've only had two speakers, I think we will at least take one more. Senator Moore.

SENATOR MOORE: Mr. President and members, really very little needs to be said on this one. But the one item that I hesitate very greatly to accuse Senator Chambers of being wrong or not