

handle the masters and all those sorts of things, make this board be able to work. I suppose the old adage is you get what you pay for may happen. I would, Senator Vrtiska, remind you though that this is a set salary. This is not like our employees. This is not putting them on a pay grade and then they move up each year with experience; that this is set in stone and the only time that it moves is if there's ever an increase in the Supreme Court's pay and we've gone as...we've gone four years at some times without those increases, but, you know, people need to understand that that's where it's at. If the body's uncomfortable with that I understand that, but I, between adding the filing fee and this reduction, this is my idea of...I know I've got a bill on Select File that, because of the crunch of money I'm going to have to reduce and I think everybody else is going to have face that as your bill comes across Select File. You're going to have to bite the bullet and do some things you don't want to do. Senator Beutler tried to make that point this morning or yesterday, but it's probably true. And so, instead of cutting the numbers, I'm willing to start off. Let's see how this works and these people are going to have a tremendous amount of responsibilities and their burdens may be high, but you also got to realize that we pay the Governor of the State of Nebraska, what, roughly 60,000 dollars a year? Seventy? Goll, they are overpaid. But we've got a number that we've got to... we've got to live with. I can live with Senator Vrtiska. He wanted to lower this and so with that I would... I would accept this amendment but I understand that people may have a legitimate difference of opinion and say that, you know, that's not enough payment or compensation for a board that's going to do this. I, again, remind you that if the constitutional amendment passes that replaces the State Board of Equalization, at least for the record, Senator Vrtiska, I'm going to be in here as those duties increase. If they take the place of the State Board of Equalization I think we have to review this, but if that doesn't happen I can live with your amendment and I'd accept it at this point in time and the rest of the body I think is free to do whatever you feel in terms of compensation is appropriate.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. Senator, your light is on next. Senator Robinson.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Madam President, I have the floor, Senator Vrtiska. I'm sorry. (Microphone not activated.) ..tiska and the rest of the body, Senator Kristensen, I have a question.