

SENATOR JONES: Madam President and members, could I ask Roger Wehrbein, Senator Wehrbein a question?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes.

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR JONES: You spoke about the blue book on page 26, but are we working off of the 1755, amendments to this? Is that the one we're working off of today, all these a...

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes. Yes, that's true, the white copy.

SENATOR JONES: Okay. The years before this last biennium, what was the increase then? You got 4 and 4...or 4 and 3.5 now, but what was the years two years before that?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: My memory says...

SENATOR JONES: (Inaudible).

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: ...remember it was over 45,000 or under 45,000, I think it was two and three hundred dollars, and over 45 zero.

SENATOR JONES: So that's the...that's the years we cut down a little bit.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: That was two years ago.

SENATOR JONES: Yeah. I guess that's fine, but I'd rather see it kind of turned around a little bit and have more of an increase for lower salaries and less for higher salaries, but I don't know. That's always been the plan, is to stay the same clear across the board.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Well, obviously, there's difference of opinion on how anybody arrives at wage scales, whether you do a percentage or flat, and that's a long dissertation on what's fair. I've seen it both ways, where you do flat and you don't...you keep your...your pay grades gradually close together if you give everybody flat. Percentage at least keeps them relative.