

from the Legislature in our state, and I think it makes no sense at all to engage in this change which will have the effect of making them...

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...even more independent. Thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Before we go on to the next speaker, may I ask the senators please to keep your conversations down. It is very difficult to hear the speaker. Senator Withem. Senator Withem waives off. Senator Robinson, on the Withem amendment.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Madam President, members of the body, I have a little problem with Senator Withem's amendment. If we pass his amendment, we go to LB 189, so there is one judge, I don't know if it is Sarpy County or where, and that judgeship would become effective, I think it is in '97. So you have that out there, and then you have the salary issue for the judges, and I don't think that's right. I think they ought to be by themselves. So you are snookering us in...if you pass this amendment, if you want one of those, you've got to vote for the other one. You may want one of them, but you don't like the other one, and I think that is a problem with the Withem amendment. And I have a problem, I have a problem with a lot of salaries we spend on the State of Nebraska. We have got 1,350 people that work for the university that make over 50,000. I am not saying they don't deserve it, but in our salary bill, in two years, those making over 100,000 will have a 7 to 8 thousand dollar raise. Well, you don't talk about...we don't talk about that very much, I can tell you that. And we don't talk about people in agencies that are making a lot of money, a lot of people make a lot more money than the Governor. And I don't know if you can lump all judges together. I am sure there are some that aren't doing a very good job. I think my judges are doing a pretty good job, but I question that where you are lumping that with we have to vote for a new judge; if you don't want that, then you vote no, then the judges don't get a pay raise. And that's the problem I have with the Withem amendment and I will oppose it. Thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Robinson. Senator Lindsay, on the Withem amendment. Senator Lindsay. I don't see Senator Lindsay. Senator Warner, on the Withem amendment.