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LR 4

of being a public service to their people back in the district. And I think that's real important too. But I'm going to support both of them. And I think the commission, of course, it'd be good to get that passed, and that be the long term, but if both of them got on the ballot, if both of them passed, I don't see no problem there either. Your salary increase would come up-front, and it's going to take a year or two to get the commission in place and get it to going, and then they could take over from there on, because they're only going to meet every two years anyway. I don't see no problem with both of them being on the ballot, and if both of them pass. And so I hope that we will put them both on the ballot, and if people says, well, it'll give the voters a choice now, that might be true, but they could both fail and they both could pass, so who knows. But I think that's the way it should be, because we are down here as public servants. We're not down here for the money; I can grant you that by looking at my ranch back home, because it's not making no money either right now. So anyway, hopefully that we will support putting them both on. If I've got just a few minutes left, I think I'll give Senator Wickersham, I think he wants a couple comments.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Wickersham.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you, Senator Jones. I rise in support of LR 4CA for a variety of reasons. Some of you have been very kind to come up to me, for example, and say, how much is it costing you to be in the Legislature? I don't know how much it's costing me to be in the Legislature. I don't have any way to compute that. But it's costing something to be in the Legislature, but it's a cost that I agreed to bear when I stood for election. So I don't think the issue necessarily before us is how much it's costing any individual member of the Legislature now to serve in the Legislature. What I think the real issue is, is one that I've heard raised a couple of times, and that is, do we have a legislative salary that is adequate to keep diversity in the body, or have we got a salary that has become so low that the only people that can serve in the Legislature are people who are independently wealthy by some means, either through retirement or through occupations that they earn considerable sums from in a very short period of time and can subsidize their activity? I