

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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LR 4

don't think we want to have that kind of a stratified Legislature. We have an interest in this state in having a broad diversity of persons be able to serve in the Nebraska Legislature. And I think that the commission will give us an adequate way to find that balance for diversity. But I agree with others as well who've said that we do not need a professional Legislature, that striking the balance between a salary that promotes a professional Legislature as opposed to one that achieves a balance and allows people who have a genuine interest in serving in the Legislature to serve is important to the long-term interests of the state. I think the commission idea is the best way over time to achieve that balance. And it isn't that I wouldn't trust the people to set the salaries appropriately. It seems difficult for us to bring that issue to them on a periodic basis and to be able to...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: ...provide adequate information on which to make a decision. And I think it is a very difficult and sometimes a very close decision about what exactly the salaries ought to be. I'm comfortable with the commission and what I would perceive as the commission's ability to weigh all of the considerations, to not provide a salary that would, as I've said, promote a professional Legislature, but at the same time provide a salary that will promote and allow diversity among people who represent constituencies across the state.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senators Jones and Wickersham. (Visitors introduced.) Those wishing to speak on the resolution are Senator Schmitt, Senator Wickersham, and Senator Schimek. Senator Schmitt. The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. The question before the body is, shall debate cease on the advancement of LR 4CA? Those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, to cease debate.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Debate does cease. Senator Kristensen, do you wish to close?

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the