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work. We join the jesting by the public, which has no concept whatsoever of what we do. They don't even know where we work. They ask, why are you seeking another salary increase since you get 120 G's, and why are you back here from Washington? They don't even know what we're called other than names they call us, because we join in the jesting. I have never made fun of myself. I can take a joke. There's a difference between humor and making fun of yourself, ridiculing yourself. That I never do.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD PRESIDING

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And I think that the Legislature, not becoming pompous and condescending to others, has got to begin to respect itself as an institution. I got to speak again on this.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Further discussion, Senator Vrtiska.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. First of all, I think that Senator Chambers is right, we need to sell ourself. But I'd like to ask Senator Kristensen a question.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Kristensen.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Yes.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Senator Kristensen, when we...when I was on Exec Board, this issue was discussed I think at some length, and a comment was made at that time if you would put the cost-of-living index in when the last salary was put in place, what would the number be?

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: I'm...I'm going to look, but I'm going to tell you, if you do it from the 4,800 figure, I think you're going to be up in the 20s, and the other one is somewhere around 17 or 18, closer to 18.