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SENATOR VRTISKA: Okay, thank you. The reason I bring this up...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: I'll look here.

SENATOR VRTISKA: I, as Senator Beutler indicated, have talked to some groups and this discussion has come up, and the first response that I have heard is--double your salary; I can't believe it. And I respond by saying, you know, doubling nothing still is nothing. And, basically, what we've been laboring up here with is practically nothing and nobody has objected to that. The only...the only exclamation is they think when you double something that's all...that's more than you should...it appears they're saying it's more. And so in the discussion that we had in a sort of a round table type discussion, I said, what do you think the salary would be had we put in a cost of living, and do you think that would have been a good idea? And, without exception, at least of those who responded to me, said, well, that probably should a been. Many in industry do that. Many other job situations do put in a cost of living and their salaries go along with, basically, what it costs them to live, and...and without...never did I hear anybody really say they would have objected, and that would probably been a good idea had we, when the salary was set, put in a cost of living. So we come up with a number somewhere between 18 and 24 thousand, somewhere in that area. So as I thought about this, I thought maybe...maybe somewhere in that area we could sell. We could sell it based on the fact that that's what we'd be getting had we not...had we, in fact, put a cost-of-living index into the salaries that was established back when the change was made. I'm not going to put up an amendment to do that, but I just want to leave it for your thinking processes that, to sell this idea to the public, it would appear to me that the easiest and most successful way would be to talk about what we'd actually be getting had we...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR VRTISKA: ...had we been working in that manner, had we put a cost-of-living index into the situation, into the adjustment of the salary each year. And if you...and you think about it, even at 24,000, with the...with the amount of money