

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

May 25, 1999

LR 5

apiece...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR COORDSEN: ...for what we consider the salary. I don't know whether that's too much or too little. I do share the same feeling that we have caused to develop in that we have poor-mouthed ourselves to the extent that that's the public's regard. And, by the way, should you care to check on it, I think the figure at the end of the last millennium was somewhere around 6 or 8 hundred dollars on an annual basis, which would probably translate into 50 or 80 thousand dollars in purchasing power today, so there's a lowering of public regard over time. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Coordsen. On the occasion of his 25th wedding anniversary, Senator Connealy has provided muffins from Jim and Connie's Bakery in Blair. The Pages will be distributing them. Senator Connealy would like to announce, as his special guest, his bride of 25 years. Judy is seated under the north balcony. Congratulations, Senator and Judy. She'll be there in a little while. Senator Bromm, on the Jones amendment.

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor. I hadn't planned to speak on this, didn't know if I could contribute anything. There's been some really...some really wise things already mentioned. But, as I am thinking about this, I think it's extremely important that we...that we try to figure out ways to pose this question to the public, the question of what is a fair compensation for the work that's done here; what...what does the public perceive that we do here; what...what would make the public interested in...in having a different way of setting our compensation than...than we've had in the past? Some of what Senator Chambers said, some of what others said, some of what Senator Matzke said and Senator Beutler triggered some thoughts that I just wanted to mention. First of all, it occurs to me that if we follow through and the public adopts 18CA we'll have to convince the public twice to approve this measure, whatever it is, and that's...that's no small task either. I think Senator Beutler and Senator Matzke hit on something that we should give some thought to and that