

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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FLOOR DEBATE

January 16, 2004 LR 3

years without a salary increase of any kind, not even a cost of living. And I think it would take the politics out of it, too, if you will. But having said that, I also know that the people in Nebraska are probably going to be very, very reluctant to take it out of the constitution. And so I would like to have the backup plan. I would like to have the bill or the amendment on the ballot in November, should that one fail, that would say where salaries were set. But now let me ask you a question. What if you got the compensation board one onto the ballot on the spring ballot,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: ...and you also had passed the one for, say, a raise to \$20,000 or whatever and it was going to be on the fall ballot? What happens, if the one passes on the spring ballot, then what happens to the one on the fall ballot?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Well, I think what you can do, and there are a number of ways we can explore this, is make the occurrence of the second election contingent upon a condition precedent, that is the condition being the failure of the first election. And you'd have to think carefully about how to do that, but that would certainly be one option to explore. And then, of course, there's always, even if you went through with it, there's always the question of it going back to the courts to decide how to interpret such a situation. But we would try to avoid that and I think we could.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Senator Hartnett.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. President, members of the body, Senator Beutler, I notice from the sheet that you passed out and have circled that this idea of the Compensation Review Commission was decided or was tried two times in the past, '70 and '80. What is being proposed by the Exec Committee with this amendment, which I support? Is it a lot like what happened in '70 and '80 or not? Are you...

SENATOR BEUTLER: I...