## TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

March 24, 2005 LR 12

amendment. But there are various questions that I think need to answered. Here's what I came up with. And it poses...it puts me in a position where I almost shy away. Some questions like whether it's justified or not; I think I could answer, sure, it's justified. I think anybody on this floor could answer it's justified. I think most of the people in Nebraska would say, yeah, this is justified. Do we need to do it right Why not. There's no good time for a politician to ask for...to ask the people for a raise, I don't think. It doesn't matter what the surplus or the shortfall looks like. What would this change do? What would be ... what would this change do to the Legislature? What would the makeup of the body be like after we did something like this? Senator Schimek touched on a couple of those things, that it would enhance recruiting Other legislatures have done it. I don't know if possibly. it's changed their legislatures that much. Does this simply amount...does this simply...can we sum it up by saying this simply amounts to an employee asking their employer for a raise? Those questions, and then this statement...and it's almost like a Bob Knight, General Patton, whatever you want, a pep talk now. I don't care what kind of campaigns come up for me, if there are I don't care what kind of campaigns come up for you folks. I would say is this, and this is...to me, is very What important. We cannot give ourselves a pay raise. Talk show, radio hosts, whatever, they can say whatever they want. People out there can say whatever they want. We can't do that. cannot do it by law. We all know that. We can only ask. Now is that an insult, to ask? We're going to find out, maybe. would further say that do not let them hang the scarlet letter around your neck, because they'll try. They'll try to do it to me if I vote yes; they'll try to do it to Senator Hudkins; Senator Landis...well, he's already got the scarlet letter; Senator Heidemann, who's up? Senator Chambers, he's...yeah, the scarlet letter, he's...Senator Synowiecki. They will hang it around our necks. Okay? Let 'em.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR FRIEND: Because it doesn't work, it doesn't fly. As Senator...it's important. Senator Kopplin, Senator Pahls, understand that it's irrelevant, totally irrelevant. You ask,