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faint. So you know what I said? Instead of offering what I think we ought to, I would accept the average, and that lowers the amount that I think they should have. Let's not talk about what other states are paying. Talk about what chief executive officers get within this state, and what people who have jobs in county and city government, and especially Omaha, get. There's a board in Omaha where the people are not even elected, and they get over...some guy gets over \$100,000 salary, and then bonuses on top of that. If you look throughout this economy that Senator Wehrbein was discussing generally, you'll find many people with far less responsibility than these individuals, commanding far more by way of salary. We're not trying to buy people to run for these offices; we're trying to annex to the office a salary that tells the public what we think the office is about, and what the work done there is worth. There have been executives paid exorbitantly salaries, and when they were hired, they were not hired with the intent that they should defraud, that they should steal, that they should cook the books. It just happens that people made bad decisions. We're going to have people in those offices whom everybody might feel, once they're there, ought not to have been elected, but the people put them there. That still does not mean the salary that is attached to that office should be lowered because you've got a scoundrel or a fool. That is going to happen. It happens every place that people do work, whether paid work or volunteer work. I do not think a salary of \$114,000 is too much for the governor of a state, even a state like Nebraska. Senator Erdman is absolutely right when he says that on other bills I will say I don't care what other states are doing. Usually, it's one of those bills where it's trying to do something that makes no sense, and the argument for it is what other states do. My argument for this salary increase is that we're not offering enough, and I know how much I would want to offer, which is not going to be even considered. So I said, perhaps, if you look at the average that these offices command, you will see a rationale, different from mine, but it's a rationale. Mine would put us higher than these amounts. And it is reasonable, when we're looking at something like compensation, to consider what happens in other states. They have peer groups, and they're called other things, when they try to determine what a reasonable wage is for a police officer, for people at the