

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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FLOOR DEBATE

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LR 12

get time.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, there are no Enrollment and Review amendments on LR 12CA. The first amendment I have is offered by Senator Friend. And I have a note that he wishes to withdraw that and substitute the Stuhr amendment, AM1648. (Legislative Journal page 1692.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Any objection, substitution? Seeing none, Senator Friend, you're recognized to open.

SENATOR FRIEND: Mr. President, I would yield the remainder of my time to Senator Stuhr. Or, if it is her time to open the amendment, I would yield the time to Senator Stuhr.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Stuhr.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. And thank you, Senator Friend. This has been a joint effort between Senator Friend and myself in the discussion of looking at legislative salaries. Senator Friend's previous amendment had the salary set at \$18,000. The amendment that I was going to introduce, and one of the amendments that I will be withdrawing, had it set at \$24,000, and also then included an increase based on the consumer price index. So after a discussion...and I thank Senator Schimek, because she brought us all together, those of us that had amendments to this bill, and to try to look at some of the options that we might consider this afternoon. So it was just an informal agreement between Senator Friend and myself that I would lower the \$24,000 originally to \$18,000, but then have an index attached to it. After talking to many of my constituents, they felt that this was one way that we would not constantly need to return to the constitution to update our salaries, but to tie it to something that...and also, in the amendment it states, not to exceed 4 percent. And I would like for you to look at the handout that I passed out to all of you, looking at the consumer price index for the last 20 years. And there was a short period in the late eighties that it actually did exceed 4 percent. And only once in the last 20 years did it reach the 6 percent. So we...that is why we came up with just looking at an average of capping it,