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the difference, and I am one of those. I don't have a spouse. I don't have someone that pays my way so allows me to stay here. I have to create the income myself. So when I'm not in session, I am working full-time and trying to keep up with the legislative issues in the summertime, because it is a full-time job. So I look at others that might be running for the position. If they are not retired and have income coming in on their retirement, someone that's independently wealthy, someone that's married, somebody has another income, they can come here and do fine and wouldn't even have to support an increase. But not everyone is that lucky. Not everyone has another income to put in their checkbook so they could survive while they service the state of Nebraska. So we look at ourselves. We need to look at the rest of the state of Nebraska when it comes to how can they run for the office. Maybe it's not going to hurt you whether the salary is \$12,000 or \$18,000 or \$24,000, but others it might and it would keep them out of the Legislature. So I think that we should look at \$24,000. I'm sorry we don't seem to do this often enough. Maybe if we did it more often we could jump from \$12,000 to \$18,000 to \$24,000, but we're always afraid to ask for a raise. And in business, you learn that when you're worthy you ask for a raise, and I think that's what we need to do. We need to ask for a raise, and I think that the people in the state of Nebraska will give us that raise if we ask for it. And I am very much in supportive of the \$24,000. I think that we need to go there because we don't ask for it often enough. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator McDonald. Senator Mines.

SENATOR MINES: Thank you, Mr. President. I'd like to yield my time to Senator Kruse.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Kruse.

SENATOR KRUSE: Thank you, Mr. President, members, and Senator Mines. This discussion has revealed the mysterious answer I was after--how does the floor feel about benefits? I think I have my answer. Mr. President, please withdraw the amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Kruse. FA297 is