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Aguilar, on the Redfield amendment.

SENATOR AGUILAR: Thank you, Mr. President and members. When I come to the Legislature, the Lincoln Journal-Star gave me the designation, the blue-collar senator. Well, in six years, the reality of that designation hasn't changed much. And a lot of it is because of what we earn. I, for one, you know, really respect what Senator Schimek is trying to do. And I don't think \$24,000 is too much to ask for. I think we earn that. I don't think there's anything wrong in asking for what you earn. We probably earn a lot more than that. I know I do that much work, and I know I can go home to my constituents and not be embarrassed to say I'm asking to double my salary. That seems to be a big concern, that we're asking to double our salaries. I would remind the body that the last time we asked for a raise, it went from \$400 to \$1,000 a month. That's more than doubling. So the reality is, the constituency believes you're doing the right job, and you're putting forth the effort. There's no reason why they shouldn't agree to what we ask for. I think what we should ask for should be a specific number. I think there's nothing wrong with \$24,000. There's many people in the Legislature like myself, who wouldn't be here if we weren't first appointed, because there's no way we can afford a grass-roots campaign that it takes, the money that it takes to spend, to get to the Legislature. The campaign experience is very expensive. We all know that. But if you get appointed first, it makes it a little easier, because then you have the opportunity to come down here and prove yourself. Once you've proven yourself, it's a little easier to get support from your constituency, a lot easier. Like I said, many people wouldn't be here without being appointed. Many people don't need to be concerned about term limits, because the simple fact of the matter, at \$12,000 a year, you probably can't afford to stay here that long. And I have a lot of respect for the professional people in this body, but I don't think we ever want to become a Legislature of all professional people. We need to be a Legislature of the people, all the people, the working class as well. I'm concerned what's going to happen down the road after term limits and we can't attract good people, qualified people to come down here and work. Twenty-four thousand is not a big enticement, but it's a lot better than