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don't think does it. I think it's way behind the times. Twenty-one thousand is a better number, obviously, but I still don't think that solves the problem. Most people in this state cannot afford to serve in this office. And that's very unfortunate, because there are many, many fine people out there who probably would like to serve. They simply can't do it. They can't do it and support their families at the same time. Senator Beutler made all the points I would have made about term limits and so forth. But in the final analysis, we've got to take this issue out of the political process and turn it over to a commission--people who are looking out for the best interests of the state, who can develop a fair compensation mechanism to attract the best people to step forward and serve in the State Legislature. So I thank Senator Beutler for his work, and I urge you to vote for his amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Friend. On with discussion. Senator Schimek, followed by Senator Beutler and others. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Mr. President, members. I'm really torn on this amendment, because I, in concept, like what Senator Beutler is trying to do. This basically was a bill that was introduced this year that went to the Executive Board, and the Executive Board did not advance it from committee. And I think this is essentially the same bill, Senator Beutler. My thinking on this, I guess, is that if we want to do this, we still have time next year to have a bill introduced and to put it on the general election ballot. If we want to do this today, I don't know if people are going to have enough time to have really thought it through. And in addition to that, the amendment itself is going to have to be changed, because of the fact that we just adopted the compromise amendment. And this says \$24,000. So I think that it will definitely slow down the process. But having said all that, I like Senator Beutler's idea in some ways. I think...I just don't think this is the time and the place to advance it. And I would ask that you not support the Beutler amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Senator Smith, followed by Senator Wehrbein.