

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

May 24, 2005

LR 12

only argument I've heard against it so far is that this is not the time and the place. But it's been a quarter century since we've attacked the real problem, the problem that the pay is in the constitution. If now is not the time, when is the time? If we don't continually build on the education process, if we aren't continually in contact with people on the inadequacy of the system, of the basic system, we will never win. It has to be a General Patton kind of approach, presenting to people again, and again, and again, until more understand why this is a pathetic, inadequate system. Pathetic. I'm astounded that we are able...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...to look at ourselves in such a way that we put up with such a pathetic system. Not the time, not the place? If this is not the place to change things, where is it? This is the place. This is the Legislature. This is the group of people that is supposed to be advising the people of the state as to what truly makes sense. Will we get more intelligent people here? Maybe; maybe not. But with term limits coming, you need to have people using their intelligence by putting in more time. They've got to put in more time to have the same level of experience on issues as we have now. They've got to put in a lot more time.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator.

SENATOR BEUTLER: They're not going to do it on the miserable pay schedule we have.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. On with discussion of the Beutler amendment. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes. Thank you, Mr. President and members. First of all, I do need to correct the record, because I grabbed the wrong amendment a few minutes ago, and indicated that the \$12,000 figure was in here and that that would have to be changed. Senator Beutler is correct. His second amendment, which is the one we're discussing, doesn't touch what we just did at all. It just adds provisions. So that wouldn't be a