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decided that a raise was in order, and the amount was raised from \$400 a month to \$1,000 a month. The difficulty and the danger of speaking in percentages would be to look at that salary increase and say what percentage of 400 or what is the increase, percentagewise, from \$400 to \$1,000. The percentage would make it look like a monumental amount, but if you looked at the actual dollars involved it was still piddling and The \$12,000 a year everybody agrees is inadequate. peanuts. That has been resolved by the amount in the bill. What we're looking at now is the number of votes that we can obtain. The more votes the better. I would hope that we can get 40. don't know if there are 40 people available to vote, but I hope that's the number that we can get. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. As part of the opening, Senator Schimek, you're in line to speak, followed by Senator Engel. Senator Schimek waives. Senator Engel.

SENATOR ENGEL: Mr. President, members of the body, I think this is very, very important that we get this out to the voters. think a lot of them have reconsidered what ... what's happened over the last few years. I think they're more informed now as far as what people are paid down here and how it limits who can serve. I know, like I said the other day, when I was approached to come down here, I was appointed, it... I had to even search my soul whether I wanted to do it, but it was a point in time in my life where I could afford to. All the children were out of college and the business was going good and I could work it on the weekends and summers and so forth and I could make it work. Because we felt, my wife and I felt, this is a service and we should, and we were encouraged to do it. We thought, well, this is something we should do, and we did it. And, of course, at that point in time, the only agreement I made with Governor Nelson at the time, that I would finish the term of the person who only lasted about three months down here, and I did. So I figured I'd be down here three years and three months. Well. that's been several years ago and I'm still here, so there must be something that draws you down here. But again, I wouldn't be here, I wouldn't be here if I couldn't afford to be here. this \$12,000, what they pay us, et cetera, all you could do if ... you're just lucky to break even. So I think this limits