

March 24, 1975

SENATOR BARNETT: So in other words you change the base at \$1200 and raise the base to \$1800?

SENATOR KIME: Yes. That means . . . they may never use that extra. But if they do have six meetings a month, they'll have extra money to pay, or five meetings a month.

SENATOR BARNETT: Well if it's the case that they may never use it then why didn't they leave in the language of \$100 per month as a minimum and up to \$1800, if there's more meetings?

SENATOR KIME: By raising this to \$1800 a year they have the extra \$25 if they have more meetings. Otherwise, they might have to go without pay or . . . that's what they'd have to do. Either than or else violate the rules.

SENATOR BARNETT: OK. Alright. I've gotta ask another question. Where does it say "per meeting"? I've gone through it and maybe I've looked right over it. I don't see it "per meeting", or number of meetings in here. It says "such compensation as shall be fixed by the Board of Directors, not exceeding so many dollars per year", on that first section. It's on lines 8, 9, 10, etc. Now where does it refer to the meetings?

SENATOR KIME: Each REA, Rural Electric organization, has one or two meetings a year . . . or one or two meetings a month, occasionally we may have to have more than that. If they have more than four a month they don't have the extra money for the per diem.

SENATOR BARNETT: I'm going to have . . .

SENATOR KIME: This is a guarantee . . .

SENATOR BARNETT: I'm sorry I don't see that per diem in here. That's the part that's bothering me. I can't find out . . . maybe it's in another section. That's why I was asking you if . . . cause I . . . unless I'm missing it altogether. I see annual salary increases for these and no per diem. So they make it annual and they raise it from \$1200 a year to \$1800 a year. I guess my next question was going to be where's the money coming from?

SENATOR KIME: This is money that they have in their treasury. This is money that they already have. They don't have to appropriate any more money, extra money, at all.

PRESIDENT: Senator Mahoney.

SENATOR MAHONEY: Mr. President, I've got a researcher working on this 226. I've had some very serious questions. I'd like to ask the Legislature's indulgence to hold it for at least two weeks. Could I bracket it? I'm not finished yet with it. I have some questions on it. I'd like to ask the Legislature if we could have at least a week and a half, with unanimous consent.

PRESIDENT: There's no unanimous consent.

SENATOR MAHONEY: No unanimous consent?