

February 2, 1973

I can't argue with that too much, but should perhaps, you were talking about minimum wages now, am I to assume that all counties are paying their elected officials on the basis of the minimum established by the statute now in effect?

SENATOR ANDERSON: No, the thing that you'll find is probably only about twenty percent, possibly even less than that, of the counties are paying the minimum salary. Most of them are acceptedly above the minimum salary.

SENATOR DICKINSON: Well then, are you in effect saying that some of these counties in your opinion are not doing a good job of setting salaries?

SENATOR ANDERSON: This is basically the concern, is that there are counties that which are lagging behind more than they should and this is really all that this bill attempts to address itself to.

SENATOR DICKINSON: Well then if you want to establish minimums, with the philosophy that the county boards are not capable of doing a good job, should we not also establish maximum, or have we no problem in this area?

SENATOR ANDERSON: I don't think we have a problem in this area.

SENATOR DICKINSON: Thank you.

SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes Senator Syas.

SENATOR SYAS: I just want to ask a couple of questions, I've been listening to the debate and I am a little bit in quandary, I don't want to harm anybody because I think Nebraska as a whole of course is, we do not pay adequate wages I think from the top to the bottom, or which ever way you want to go, but is there anything in this bill that, that you're interpreting that you can raise the salary of a person during his term of office?

SENATOR ANDERSON: There is nothing in this bill that says that his salary can be increased during his term of office, it may only be increased prior to the beginning of the term, actually prior to the beginning of the filing time.

SENATOR SYAS: Yes, but I heard you say every four years, that wouldn't quite work out that way, because it would be every two years, somebody would be starting on a four year term.

SENATOR ANDERSON: In, in the case of the elected county officials that are enumerated in this office, the assessor, the clerk, the treasurer, the sheriff, the attorney, these persons are all elected on a four year interval. There were no, none of these officers in any of the counties that, in any of the class counties that we're talking about right now, class one through five, which does not include Lancaster and Douglas, none of these officials were elected during the last election, so this means that we're right now in the third year of their four year term.

SENATOR SYAS: Then, do I understand it if you have the other type of county government, for instance, what do you call it, township, that they're only elected every four years, I mean they're, that they're no staggered terms in any of these counties, is that right?

SENATOR ANDERSON: Right, either the two types of county government are the township government in the commissioner counties, and both the commissioner counties and the supervisor counties