

March 20, 1974

PRESIDENT: Senator Carpenter.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Now on page, the same page on line 19. It says the personnel director shall make the appropriate changes in the salary schedule to reflect the \$300 cost of living adjustment. Now how is he going to do that?

PRESIDENT: Senator Stahmer.

SENATOR CARPENTER: What method, how is the employee going to get....

SENATOR STAHMER: Yes, again, Senator Carpenter I think that gets up to the wording previously there. And I think that more clearly spells out the intent of the budget committee that everyone gets a \$300 cost of living adjustment. And that would be plugged into each step in the salary schedule of the state pay plan. And that would automatically done by the personnel director by readjusting the figures in each one of the steps. And that was the decision of the Budget Committee again unanimously to give this money for this cost of living adjustment.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Well, when I first read what I thought what the committee had recommended, I got the impression you were going to give the employee a \$300 check or warrant or something. Apparently that's not so.

SENATOR STAHMER: No. I would read that it is so. This is.. in other words this is the cost of living to bring him back up to offset the inflation. Otherwise he's going backwards. This is to prevent him from going backwards. If he's meritorious, then he would get the 5% increase on the pay plan. If we didn't give him the \$300, many of the employees would be going backwards because of inflation.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Well, I'm only trying to understand. Nothing else. Do I understand that the employees as they now exist will get a \$300 dollar warrant, check or something within the very near future.

SENATOR STAHMER: Yes, that's correct.

SENATOR CARPENTER: O.K.

SENATOR STAHMER: \$25 a month.

PRESIDENT: Senator Marsh, would you care to respond.

SENATOR MARSH: This would not come in one lump sum. This would be an increase by the month of \$25 a month. This means that each employee currently board. And it also means that each employee who begins with the State of Nebraska will begin at a \$25 month increase over what the current schedule is now.

PRESIDENT: When?

SENATOR MARSH: July 1. Anyone who comes board will come in at a \$300 increase per year over what the schedule is now for that job classification.

PRESIDENT: 1974.

SENATOR MARSH: Yes.