

April 17, 1979

LB 398

SENATOR COPE: A question of Senator... Mr. President and members, a question of Senator Nichol, please. Senator Nichol, would you bring me up to date on the retirement plans of judges? Are they comparable or just how is that set up?

SENATOR NICHOL: This bill does not deal with the...

SENATOR COPE: No, but I was just curious...

SENATOR NICHOL: I'm afraid I can't do that...

SENATOR COPE: Well, that is fine. I just...

SENATOR NICHOL: Perhaps someone who is, has been on the other bill can bring you up to date on it.

SENATOR COPE: Okay, thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I rise to support the amendment we adopted before lunch. I think it is reasonable and Senator Haberman is showing a, I think, somewhat of a simplistic point of view. Those of us who support or support raises which are I think, in proportion to the decisions they have to make is not unreasonable. If you look at the committee amendments they are going to get the judges to a position of a salary which is somewhat higher than that offered by Senator Lewis. I think we are taking the reasonable course and I would disagree with Senator Haberman that those of us who vote to increase salaries when we recognize quality, competence and decision making is not really a big spender. In many cases it is a wise, prudent decision. I suggest that we retain Senator Lewis' amendments. They are reasonable. They are not unreasonable. These individuals who serve as the judicial system in the State of Nebraska have upon their body and their back a great decision and if we are going to entice various people to work for or seek out the judiciary system then I think we have to provide them with salaries which will get us the best available individual for this kind of position. Therefore, I will stand with Senator Lewis' amendments and oppose the committee amendments.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Pirsch.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature,