

April 17, 1979

LB 398

that are given in the Legislature. We make broad decisions relative to policy that will affect people in the future but here is a real live situation involving people some of whom are very distraught, very hurt and feel heartbroken because of what has happened to somebody dear to them and the judge cannot be swayed by that entirely. He has to take the law. He has to remember the oath that he swore and he has to remember what his job as a judge is in total disregard, if possible, of what the public's reaction will be and in this one case I think, and it is just my opinion, that is what Judge Grant did. Maybe I would have decided differently but it would have been a lot easier to decide differently, to go for the blood and the forever term of punishment. Now here is why I am trying to hook that up to the bill we are dealing with today.

SPEAKER MARVEL: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: There is no way to set a dollar value on that type of activity and work. The best thing you can do is make an approximation in terms of what people value as to what a thing is worth and since in this society money is what is used to value things, the amount that is accorded these people who do a job that nobody else in the society is required to do, I think money is the smallest thing that can be given. For right now I am going to support the bill in the form that it has taken. I don't think it is too much money in general. In specific cases, Senator Reutzel, I think it is way too much and, in fact, some judges owe the state but we have to look at the office and the function of it and the way it is supposed to operate and I think the bill is reasonable in that light.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Motion on the desk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Haberman moves to indefinitely postpone LB 398.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The Chair recognizes Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, fellow colleagues, I think enough has been said on this subject and the motion speaks for itself so I will call for the question.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Hefner, we are speaking to the kill motion.