

April 24, 1979

LB 99

SPEAKER MARVEL: Let me turn to Senator Newell and then I will come back to you. Senator Newell, do you have amendments to the bill?

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President...

SPEAKER MARVEL: Amendments to the committee amendment.

SENATOR NEWELL: I have amendments to the committee amendment. Mr. President, members of the body I would like to just briefly explain, if the Clerk could read every so briefly the amendments as they are written, I just want to get people's attention Pat, not anything more.

CLERK: Read Newell amendment. Amendment appears on page 1624 of the Legislative Journal.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Are these in the Journal? Okay.

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President, members of the body I can very briefly explain these. These are amendments to the Standing committee amendments on LB 199. If you will turn to your bill book, you will notice that the committee amendments do a tremendous job in spelling out every possible detail that could possibly happen, and they intend fully to put this in the constitution of the great State of Nebraska. This will add more language to the Constitution in one fell swoop than most any other piece of legislation or proposal has ever added. For that reason I am suggesting to make some changes. Instead of spelling out in its full complexity how this commission would be established, I am suggesting that we say that the governor shall appoint them which is a constitutional requirement and then say in accordance with law, which means that the legislature will then have to draw up a bill that would set out the qualifications of these commissioners, and how they would be appointed. The next thing we do is we say the commission shall review salaries and expenses for members of the Legislature. We strike members of the judiciary and then we allow for the Governor and the Lt. Governor, the Attorney General, the Secretary of State, Auditor of Public Accounts and Treasurer. Lastly, but not leastly we strike the last half of the paragraph on line 24 after Legislature it says and when approved the approved shall become affirmative at the beginning of the next regular session. Quite frankly this would allow it to go into effect right away so that we could get a salary increase instead of waiting for two years as Senator Reutzel's amendment would do. So, basically what we have said is that this shall be a compensation board that will be set out by