

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President, members of the body. There are three sections to this amendment. Senator Lewis went after the one section and considering the difficulty that he had with the judges salary I can understand his position. I empathize, I don't quite sympathize but I do empathize. There are three other sections. We can not let this bill get off of General File with all of these provisions in it. I'll tell you what. This is the longest constitutional amendment that I have ever seen. It is going to add more language to the constitution and unnecessarily so. There is no reason that we have to spell out in the great detail that we do in the Constitution how this is all to be done. So if we want to do this maybe what we ought to do is separate the issues. Maybe what I ought to do since I think that judiciary has been the primary issue is to say, is to ask that we divide the question. That we only vote on amendment number two which is the deal, which is the question on the judiciary. Since Senator Lewis who is supporting higher judicial salaries has made this the issue on this amendment I think that I would like to have it divided where we only take number two and then we take one and three together. Because one and three do something all together different from the judiciary. One and three says that we set up this commission according to law. That we don't spell out how they are chosen, where they come from, their names, their addresses, the phone numbers and everything else and naturally I may be taking this to the ridiculous but everything else that this amendment does. So for that reason I want to speak to just to number two at this point. You talk about the judiciary, you know the people of the great State of Nebraska has chosen 49 legislators to come and do the state's business. That means that we have to pass on salaries for all state employees. They are members of the executive branch. We have to, we have to determine what the salaries are going to be for legislative employees. They are members of the legislative branch. We have to make the salaries for employees of the judiciary, they are members of the judiciary branch of government and the reason that they have vested all of those things in this body is because we have to be able to coordinate and look at an over all plan and program. But here we come up with a proposal, it is a grand scheme, and I think that it is a grand scheme. Meaning a positive grand scheme, the scheme is that we are going to say that everybody is going to have salaries looked at by an independent judiciary or an independent commission and then recommend to the Legislature. In the case of the judiciary that is wrong. I can go along with part of this grand scheme, the most honest thing to do is to say that it