

you are giving an increase. He said that is the way it has to be, that is the only way we can get this. I said have you ever thought of trying the straight and honest approach, you know, and the media will work with you then. Set it in the citizens, lay it out there, you know we are subject to what you the citizens set through the commission and you are going to get it. I repeat statistically that will win, statistically you will get a higher ultimate salary because it is completely out of your hands. I urge you to go with the amendment. As I say, I'll take the bets that it will pass.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, Senator DeCamp was making such sweet sounds I thought his name was Johnny Mathias instead of Johnny DeCamp for a minute. If statistics voted I would believe that he is right. But, Senator DeCamp, I think the citizens will say we can't trust citizens to set salaries because citizens are the very ones that sent the senators to the Legislature. In other words, we are dealing with, I won't say irrationality, but conflicting attitudes that the public will have. They want and enjoy the therapeutic exercise of kicking us in the whatever part of the anatomy they feel they are kicking us in when they say "no raise". I personally will vote for this bill, I'll vote for any bill that offers a raise. If the raise is for a million dollars I will vote for that. They can't kill that any more certainly that they have killed the other bills where we have tried to travel cheap. I think from looking at what some other states get, especially like California, those people have an understanding what it takes to be a decent legislator so they offer a salary to obtain that kind of a person. We have to stop being fearful and playing ourselves cheap. If we are going to lose anyway, get the public used to the idea that we at least think that we are worth something ourselves even though they disagree. As Senator Lewis pointed out when they talk about us offering too many bills they naturally want to exempt the bills that they want introduced because those bills are meritorious and worthy of passage. The ones who want us to meet once every five years would want us to meet only that one time to take care of their particular interest. So we know that the closer an issue touches people the more interest they will have in it. This salary matter touches all of us right where we live, in the pocketbook, except some of us. Because some of us know that, or feel that we will never get an increase in salary. If I stay in this Legislature for a thousand