

April 30, 1979

LB 398

SENATOR DE CAMP: Sounds good to me. But that is a separate issue of course but it sounds good.

SENATOR KOCH: Yes, it is. But, to often they say that they have difficulty finding qualified people. If you look only in the democratic or republican sometimes that may be true because there may be equally qualified on the other side of the fence if you forget the politics.

SENATOR DE CAMP: And when you introduce that other bill you will find Johnny D supporting it.

SENATOR KOCH: Will you?

SENATOR DE CAMP: Yes.

SENATOR KOCH: Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Reutzel, do you wish to speak on the DeCamp amendment?

SENATOR REUTZEL: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I rise in opposition to the DeCamp amendments and what we are led to believe and what we have been told from the lobby the last couple of days. Big rumor. Six percent plus six percent. But this isn't six percent plus an additional six percent in lieu of any committee amendments in lieu of any action on the bill. It is an additional six percent and then a further six percent on top of what we have already done. Now I don't know, I can guess who brought this amendment to Senator DeCamp, I think that it is pretty obvious. But, it appears that if there was a problem with the county judges what we should have done was lower the rural county judges. Now a number of people came up to me after we moved this bill off of General File and did not realize what we had done with the rural county judges. What did we do? We gave them a 30% increase. Thirty percent. Now the others only got anywhere from, I think about 5 to 11%. But the rural county judges jumped up 30%. So along comes the compromise. Lets give them 6% now and 6% the following year and it will go into effect in '81. But that is on top of what we have already given these individuals. Now it seems to me that if we want to strike a solution, if we want to make things more equitable as Senator DeCamp has said, there is an easier way to do this without raising everyone else's salary and that is to simply go along with Senator Koch's amendment that he just withdrew, which I hope he puts back on, to lower the rural county judges. Instead of raising everyone else up to a level equal to or above the rural county judges in their increases. Lets not compare that 30% increase to everyone