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LB 398

what we've done. The rural county judges were raised about thirty percent, and I don't care what classification of employee or judges we're talking about, I don't think any class should have been raised thirty percent, and that's exactly what we did with 398. Now the reason we did that was to get all the judges on one level because of the supplements that we've had for years and that goes back to when Senator Carpenter was with us. So part of this amendment, although we're going six percent on current salaries plus an additional six percent for the following year, what we're also doing is reducing the rural county judges, reducing them from that thirty percent increase from \$28,500 which they currently make, we're raising that up to thirty...about, let's see, thirty-seven...it's a thirty percent increase and we're reducing them down to thirty-two percent, which they would use for that base for the six percent. So I would urge the body to move the bill back for a specific amendment. If we do not...if we do not, then we're talking about a thirty percent increase for one class and I think that's an insult not only to this body but to the taxpayers. So I would urge the body to move this bill back for a specific amendment.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, here is another thing to extract some more money from you. Now, Senator Reutzel, I just can't believe... I just can't believe that you put your name on this amendment for the reduction of a thousand forty-five bucks for county judges and want to increase all the rest of those. I just can't believe that. Now this is my time. I just can't believe that. Now I can understand Senator DeCamp going on this because this is what he's been doing all day...spending your dough. I just want to say one thing to you. You go home and ask the people in your district, or the attorneys in your district, what they think of this raise and listen to what they tell you. I've done it...I've done it, and I urge you to do it. Now let me say a couple of things and I won't extend this long. What the Judiciary Committee and the subcommittee have done is to work hard to work something out that is somewhat sensible and still give the judges some kind of a raise. The other point that we wished to do was to get the judges somewhat commensurate with each other so that the county judges were not way low, the district judges and Supreme Court judges and the others so far away from