

March 25, 1981

LB 111

SENATOR MARVEL: Senator Haberman. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, whenever something poetic occurs I can't help but get it into the record so, I want to read a portion of the committee amendment which by the way, I will support. "Judges holding office on the effective date of this act shall continue in office until expiration of their respective terms of office and then thereafter for an additional term which shall expire on the first Thursday after the first Tuesday in January immediately following the first general election of which they are retained in office after the effective date of this act". I wonder if there is anybody who understands really what that is saying. But I had to get it into the record and I do support it, whatever it means.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is the adoption of the committee amendments to 111. All those in favor of the motion vote aye, opposed vote no.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays on the adoption of the committee amendments, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Motion is carried, amendments are adopted. Senator Chronister, do you wish to explain the bill?

SENATOR CHRONISTER: Mr. President, or rather your honor, as I heard you addressed a short time ago, and members. The principle purpose of LB 111 is to provide a structured system of judicial salaries reflecting a proper relationship among the various courts. The bill would establish a simplified and uniform system of setting judicial salaries as percentages of the salaries set by the legislature for the chief justice and justices of the Nebraska Supreme Court. District and separate juvenile court justices would receive 92.5% of the Supreme Court salary. County judges, municipal judges and workmens compensation court judges would receive 85% of the supreme court salary. The change would not be immediate. This formula becomes effective in January, 1983. I would like to strongly emphasize that LB 111 is not a pay raise bill. The intent is to establish a rational formula of linking adjustments and judicial salaries to adjustments in the top salary on the scale. Simply setting the highest salary level will set all other levels at the same time. While the percentages are not the result of any scientific computation they do reflect in essence the relationship which has historical precedence and which presently exists among the various courts. The formula was arrived at after careful and