

SPEAKER NICHOL: We have a motion, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, I had a motion earlier. I have a priority motion, however. Senator Hefner would move to bracket LB 43 until January 20, 1986.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President, members of the body, I move to bracket LB 43 until January 20th, 1986. I commend Senator Warner for bringing us this bill because I think we need to address the problem. I think we need to address the salaries of the Governor and our constitutional officers and also the Public Service Commission, but I believe that we still have time to do this. This will give us another year's time to see what this economy is going to do. I feel that if we pass this bill now, that we will be sending the wrong signal to our people back home because they are certainly going through tough economic conditions. All we're doing is we're buying a little more time and I want to be up front with this. We're buying about a year's time on this and I agree that they do need more money. The Governor needs more money than \$40,000. All we need to do is compare it with the salaries of what the Governors of other states are getting. The Attorney General needs a little more money. The Secretary of State needs a little more money and the Public Service Commissioners need a little more money. I believe that salaries will go up to \$27,000 on the Public Service Commission members this coming July. But out in our rural areas our farmers are going broke. Many of them are taking bankruptcies. Small businessmen are going broke. But really, elected officials don't seek this particular office because of the money, because of the salary. It's just like you 48 senators down here, I'm sure that you didn't run because of the salary that the legislators run. Like our Speaker, Senator Nichol, I'm sure that he wouldn't work this hard for \$4,800 a year, but he enjoys the prestige of it, he enjoys being down here in the limelight and being part of the system. Our tough economic times that we're having in agriculture is going to have a ripple effect. Lincoln and Omaha are going to feel it, I don't know when, but I'd say within the next six months. And so I want to say to you again, we don't want to send the wrong signal to our people back home at this time. This is a very critical time. Those farmers that are left are getting ready to go