

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: That is fair.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Your motion is to bracket until April 1?

SENATOR DECAMP: Yes.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Any objection? It is bracketed until April 1. We'll move on to LB 43.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 43 was a bill introduced by Senator Warner. (Read.) The bill was read on January 10 of last year, it was referred to the Government Committee for hearing. The bill was advanced to General File. Government Committee amendments were considered and adopted by the Legislature on March 6 of last year, Mr. President. At that time there was an amendment by Senator Landis to the bill that was adopted. I have a series of amendments pending.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Warner, do you wish to speak very briefly on the bill so that we can then consider the amendments, please. Thank you.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, you will all recall that under the Constitution salary adjustments for constitutional officers cannot occur during the term of office in which a person is elected, that is changed up or down. The proposed legislation would adjust the salaries of the various constitutional officers, other than the judges, on January of 1987 when the terms commence. The last change that occurred was in 1978 legislative session taking effect in January of 1979. If no adjustment is made during the course of this session, no further adjustment would be constitutionally possible until January of 1991. I appreciate the fact that we would properly argue that these are difficult times and there should be some reservations about making adjustments in these salaries. But on the other hand, in view of the fact that this is the last time that an adjustment could be made until...to take effect until 1991, it seems to me it would still be appropriate to go ahead with it at this time. I would only point out that based upon the committee amendments, which I do support, that have been adopted, that if you applied just the percent of adjustment that occurred generally for state employees salaries since 19...January of 1979 the salary of the governor, which in the committee amendments would move from 40 to 60 thousand, would be right at that \$60,000