

are right, that we should not expect to make a lot of money. But by the same token we should not expect a big sacrifice. We're not being true to our responsibilities, I think, of attracting the best people into these governmental positions if we don't make these salaries somewhat commensurate with what they could expect to receive in public life. I can recall having conversations with a good number of people in the business community up in Omaha following Governor Kerrey's decision not to seek reelection. There was, first of all, some disappointment. He had gained the respect of these individuals. Second comment was, well we don't particularly blame him. The state has a lot of problems and it's not a good time to be Governor and the third remark, the one I remember that makes some sense in this argument is, they couldn't imagine anybody running for Governor of this state given the salary, given the circumstances, given how hard a job it is, given how demanding it is and giving the salary we pay. It just didn't make sense to them from their businessman mentality for an individual to want to be Governor of this state when it only pays \$40,000 a year. Now, a lot of people are going to stand up and say, yes, they think it would be great to be making \$40,000 a year, but for the type of individual with that type of managerial skill and to be able to handle those responsibilities, I think we owe more to our citizens than to stand up and oppose this sort of bill. True, it makes good headlines to oppose this sort of bill, but it's not good public policy to oppose a salary increase for our elected officials. I urge you to support this bill.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Mr. Clerk, I hear we have a motion.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Higgins would move to indefinitely postpone the bill. That would lay it over unless the...

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Warner, do you want to take it up now? Okay, we'll take it up now. Senator Higgins, please.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Mr. President. First I will address Senator Landis's remarks. Senator Landis mentioned that our neighboring states pay so much more to the Governor, that we ought to adopt their ideas. I would suggest, if the Nebraska Unicameral Legislature is going to base all our decisions upon what the states surrounding us are doing, we should have adopted the lottery years ago, but