

is going to be very difficult then to be voting on the budget considerations. We don't really feel that crunch as of yet and I suppose it is good for the proponents of LB 43 not to be in the middle of the budget crisis because I do feel if this was at the same time as the consideration of the budget crisis, I think we would be probably spending a lot more time on it and probably considering this increase a little bit more seriously. But until I see further compromises or reductions in the salary from their doubling, as it is now with the Governor's from 40 to 80, Senator Hefner's is the only amendment that I have seen and I am going to be supporting it and I would urge the body to do likewise. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I oppose the Hefner amendment because I think Senator Warner's amendment which follows this one is the superior public policy. I know that I received a handful of letters, angry, truculent. However, it seems to me that the underlying theory of LB 43 is good policy. I am not so sure that we wouldn't have good governor candidates with a salary of \$10,000, \$12,000. I am not sure where you get into the business of buying good candidates or not. And maybe we would get good candidates even without a salary. But the question is, should we? And I think not. I think that it is reasonable to give somebody the market value of their services and in this case minus a discount for the fact that it is public service and that there are some benefits. Now, I would dispute some of the questions and points made by Senator Hefner. If you live in Lexington, Senator Barrett wins the election to the Governor in four years, let's say, and he has a home that he is buying on mortgage out there, does the mortgage not have to be paid during the pendency of his governorship? No. The fact that it is provided here in Lincoln in proximity to the State Capitol does not solve the problem of financing a home. God forbid that somebody from this body should be elected Governor, either whether they live in Lincoln or Omaha. They are paying for a house. They come down here, they would have to continue to pay for that house and that salary would have to cover it. It would be true for their own home automobile if it was on a loan, for their insurance, for their IRA accounts. So many of those fringe benefits, in fact, are simply duplications because people are going to come and move to Lincoln, but