

speak against the amendment, and then I'll close and we can take our shot at getting this amendment adopted.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit, do you wish to speak on the Landis amendment? Do you wish to speak on the Landis amendment? Very well. Senator Higgins. Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, I rise to oppose this amendment. I think it is too much, especially in these stressful economic times. I think that a 20 percent increase would be plenty. We ended up raising the state employees 3 percent this year, and I realize that our constitutional officers haven't received a raise for a number of years. But I think this is too great an increase. In regards to the state employees, there were some members of this body that didn't vote for that increase. So I think that we ought to look at it very carefully. We ought to consider the economic times that we are in. So I would urge you to vote against this amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Hoagland. Senator Haberman. You want to speak? Senator Higgins.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Mr. President. I'd like to ask Senator Hefner a question, please. Senator Hefner, are our constitutional officers allowed to have any other jobs besides the ones they have here?

SENATOR HEFNER: I wouldn't think they would be, but maybe they do. Some...

SENATOR HIGGINS: Is the Attorney General allowed to practice law if he or she is a lawyer?

SENATOR HEFNER: I don't think the Attorney General is allowed to go into private practice.

SENATOR HIGGINS: I don't recall any specific law that says they cannot.

SENATOR HEFNER: I thought we just changed that not too long ago.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Well, if we did it was very recently. What about the State Auditor, can he do income taxes and run a private business on the side?