

April 15, 1994

LB 991

LR 15

single penny of this needs to go to the front line individuals who are doing the job, that those are the ones that they need to, in essence, keep in their jobs. The two men that Senator Lindsay spoke of, one of them happens to be a constituent of mine, I didn't know that John was coming down today, but they felt strongly enough about it, they took time off work to come down and talk to some members saying you don't know how low the morale dropped after that veto because folks felt that finally the Legislature had heard, they had listened, and they were going to do what was right for these folks. They have been in that job for five years. They have been working under conditions that we would not tolerate, for wages that we would not tolerate, but yet we have an opportunity here now with that \$600,000, we are not going to correct this system overnight. We are not going to make it from a poorly paid job to a very well paid job with this vote to override, but what we are going to do is tell them that we recognize that they need to be on a parity, they need to be on a competitive level with their counterparts in the correction system. Because if we do not do this, then next year I think it is appropriate for this body to say, well, maybe we ought to put them under the Department of Corrections. Because if we are not going to treat them properly where we have them under the judicial branch, which, by the way, is where I firmly believe they belong, if the only way that you can basically get them to a level where they get the salary that they deserve is to move them over to the Department of Corrections, I guess then maybe at that point I would be willing to support that move.

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: I don't believe that's the appropriate place for these individuals. I think they belong under the judicial system. I think also though that this \$600,000 increase needs to be there. We need to keep experienced people in these jobs. The legislation that we've passed in the area of criminal justice demands that we have people that know what they are doing in these areas. I would urge you to support the motion to override the veto. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Hall. While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and do sign LR 15CA. I would like to recognize 8 seventh and eighth graders from Rose Community School, and their teacher. They are here from Rose, which is in Senator Jones'