

April 25, 1975

SENATOR F. LEWIS: It would be \$6 million. So it would be about . . . well it's a little . . . not quite a percent, it's about 8/10. It would be \$48,000, Senator Dworak, which I told my school board which they said they endorsed.

SENATOR DWORAK: So we're increasing that school systems cost for pension benefits only, \$48,000?

SENATOR F. LEWIS: That's correct.

SENATOR DWORAK: Annually?

SENATOR F. LEWIS: That's correct.

SENATOR DWORAK: Thank you. I just think the body should be aware of the fiscal impact of this bill to the local school districts because it is significant. It's easy to say do these things. You're talking already about an increased mill levy, just for operating costs. Now you're adding retirement benefits on top of it. The state aid bill has been limping through. By taking these increased benefits we're doing nothing by passing these costs onto the public through the school districts. When we cast the vote on it and go back and talk to our people at home and when they're facing the increased mill levy we can't blame it on the Governor for not accepting, or not endorsing, state aid. We're doing it ourselves here, where we're mandating that the school districts pay more money for teachers benefits, teachers retirement benefits. By doing that we're doing nothing but forcing an increase of the local mill levy. When we press that green or red button just so that we're aware of what we're doing.

PRESIDENT: Senator Murphy.

SENATOR MURPHY: Question of Senator Lewis, if I may. First and foremost I hope this is not the same actuary that gave us the figures on your original pension plan that were at 50 percent.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: That was the purbs actuary. We have since not used him.

SENATOR MURPHY: Thank you. Secondly, Senator Lewis, in addition to the funds we're talking about now school districts do also pay an OAB fee which I guess I would have to call a pension or a retirement fee also, do they not?

SENATOR F. LEWIS: That's correct. Just like the state does for the other state employees.

SENATOR MURPHY: So if we're adding them together ultimately we're talking about 9 or 10 percent that the school district will be paying toward the teachers retirement?