

are not the people who would be going on welfare. If you can afford to retire at age 60 instead of at age 65, then you are probably looking at a situation in most cases where there are double income and where you can afford to pick up the additional health benefits. If you can afford to retire, you can probably afford to pick up additional health benefits on a different program. The poor bloke who can't afford to retire, he is not going to be helped by this bill anyway. So the point is that this bill doesn't really help the people who most need the help and you may recall that I offered an amendment on General File which said with regard to those that have health problems, okay, let them continue to be covered, we will cover those people, and that was rejected by the sponsors of the bill and by the lobby in favor of the bill. And that rejection indicates to me that by and large the people who are being helped by this are people who don't have health problems and who can afford to retire early, both of which, so that the two classes that you would most want to help are not helped and you are simply helping people who have double incomes and can afford to retire early, not the people that you want to help anyway, or not the people that you want to help most. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Pappas.

SENATOR PAPPAS: Mr. President, colleagues, I would like to thank Senator Wesely for pointing out clarifications on the retirement program for the State Patrol, which I think if you study that it points out that that was not included in the fiscal impact, and where it is already in effect, it will help lower the cost of the fiscal impact. I would like to point out a couple of other things to different people who have talked about their tax dollars. This bill does not affect tax dollars. It will not now, it will not in the future unless the laws and the statutes of the State of Nebraska are changed and changed dramatically. When we talk about retirement people, I guess maybe I am kind of old fashioned but I kind of hate to see people that can't afford to retire early to wait until they are 65 or wait till they are 70 and retire, then sometimes die within a year or two years after retirement and not be able to enjoy some of the fruits of labor and the long years they have had together with husband and wife and travel a little bit and kind of enjoy retirement. When we talk about, when Senator Beutler just talked about the people that can afford to retire, it almost looks like we are trying to say, hey, let's forget about the poor people, the ones that can't afford to retire, and let's just keep looking at the wealthy, the people with the double incomes that can afford to retire. I think we have got to look to provide