

not, it becomes a wash, in other words, revenue neutral, but I do want the body to know that these figures or anytime, as Senator Johnson says, you increase retirement, if you take retirement at age 55, you are probably getting about 66 percent more retirement in your life-span, but again with your districts may be the same as my district, it may almost be a wash, in other words, replacing, and that is always the argument. We replace the older, higher paid employee with the younger one. Now most schools, the larger school districts, I know Grand Island does, I know North Platte does, I know Millard, I think Ralston, most of the larger school districts do provide early-out bonus now which is supposed to take care of what this bill does, in essence.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time has expired. Senator Ashford.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I rise in opposition to the kill motion, and for a couple of reasons. Senator Johnson talks about the fact that there is a lot of actuarial computation to be made in determining the benefit or the cost savings or cost of this program and that is correct, that there are actuarial computations that need to be made for each particular school district to determine whether or not there is a cost savings or not. But I am convinced that that is close enough, that the savings that will result from the early retirement will be significant, if not a wash in every district, that it will be close enough for me. Now, secondarily, I am just a strong supporter of the concept. I would like to, I hesitate to do this and to read into the record letters from constituents, but I am going to read into the record a letter from Les Sladek who happened to be a math teacher of mine at Westside High School in 1966, and I mean I am even surprised he got to 1967 after teaching me in 1966, but in any event, he is still in the Westside or District 66 school district, and I am going to read this into the record because I think it emphasizes the point which has been made and which I would like to make into the record. It says, "I am a secondary school principal. When I am 60 years old, I will have had 40 years in the retirement system. It will be time for me to retire and give way to younger people with new ideas and greater energy. Our schools are only as good as their leaders and I, personally, know of many of my administrative colleagues who are in a similar situation to mine. We know that at some point in time it would be best for all parties concerned to step aside for new blood, but we will not be able to do so because we cannot afford