

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

March 9, 2005 LB 503A, 503

will be referred to Reference. That's all that I had.
(Legislative Journal pages 779-784.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. First agenda item, be
General File appropriations bill. Mr. Clerk, LB 503A.

CLERK: LB 503A by Senator Stuhr. (Read title.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Stuhr, you're
recognized to open on LB 503A.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the
body. LB 503A is the appropriations bill for the Nebraska
Retirement Systems Committee's priority bill, which is currently
on Final Reading. The delay in this A bill is due to the
additional amendments that were included in LB 503 during
General and Select File. LB 503 makes a number of changes in
the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems, or NPERS, the
agency which oversees the five major public retirement plans in
the state. LB 503 adds the responsibility of NPERS in the areas
of internal auditing and testing of information submitted by
employer political subdivisions. There is an appropriation of
funds for an assistant internal auditor and programming changes
in order to fulfill these additional duties to ensure that
administration of the plans is properly performed. LB 503
provides for additional per diems for members of the Investment
Council and the Public Employees Retirement Board. Funds for
these amounts will be paid for out of retirement plan member
funds, and total \$4,800 each year for PERB, and \$2,664 each year
for the Investment Council. Finally, LB 503 provides funds to
cover the employer rate contribution increase for the State
Patrol and carrier enforcement officers. This amount is
required because the state actuary has indicated that there is a
need for additional contribution requirement, in some part due
to the market losses that occurred in 2001 and 2002. LB 503
increases the employee and employer contribution rates to cover
this contribution requirement. This amount totals \$804,161 for
2005-2006, and \$864,332 for 2006 and 2007, to be paid from the
General Fund. An additional \$164,654 and \$176,423 will be paid
out of the Carrier Enforcement Cash Fund during the next
biennium. It is my understanding that these amounts were