

SENATOR NEWELL: Senator Kremer, it looks like you are gaining support. Senator Fowler, the chairman of the committee said he would support taking that language out, I will support taking that language out. I think the wisdom of that is good. The arguments that you make are good and for that reason I will support your motion.

SENATOR KREMER: Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Kelly.

SENATOR KELLY: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I would oppose this returning the bill to reconsider and increase the University of Nebraska's request for funds for their retirement program. I would just do this very quickly really, and very precisely. The Omaha World Herald states that the budget committee's request, in other words the budget bills that have entered, eleven million dollars more than the Governor's budget was. Now the appropriations committee operates with what they call a priority I system where we take all of the additions to the budgets and put a priority on them and then we vote on priority ones. On those additions the only one really in the university that the budget committee did not grant was the retirement program of approximately a million dollars and the reason that the committee did not include that in the budget, in my opinion, was that the floor of this legislature flunked LB 817. With that move on this legislative floor it gave the committee backbone to take that money out of the budget. I see no reason of any kind why we should be twelve million dollars over the Governor's budget, we are at eleven, we can defend eleven and we have no business in any way putting another million dollars in the expenses for the university. They have been treated very generously this year by this Legislature. I oppose returning this bill.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: (No response).

SPEAKER MARVEL: Question has been called for. There are no more lights so it is a moot question. Senator Newell, do you want to close on your motion?

SENATOR NEWELL: Yes, Mr. President, I think the discussion was enlightening and fairly good. I do have to ask Senator Kelly one quick question. Senator Kelly, you are concerned that there would be additional dollars going into the retirement funds is one that I . . . that confuses me. Do you have information that the rest of us do not?