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retiring after 35 years now this year will not receive the benefit even though the formula basis is the same fifteen years from now, or in Linda Lewis' case 28 years from now when she retires. It is an attempt to...and the committee has done a good job I think over the years and I have served on that for eight years in terms of trying to keep the actuarial soundness of our system, and I am happy to report we have one of the finest and most sound systems in the country right now in terms of dollars in and dollars out versus pay-out. And that difference has to be there in terms to parlay a higher rate of retirement for those who are going to retire earlier.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Murphy.

SENATOR MURPHY: Well, I hope you all paid close attention to Senator Chambers because he is right, and I wonder how many of you are aware that this year we appropriated 687 thousand dollars of state funds to make this judges' pension actuarially sound. Of course, we are demanding that they contribute almost one-third of the amount that goes to fund that, the total amount being almost one million dollars. Now, I know they need more money. Lord knows all they get is their pension plus their Social Security, and a few miscellaneous sittings as a judge for which they are paid and which does not apply against their pension. But my real problem is the fact that we are striking the proposition that has existed under which this pension has been not quite funded. We hope to have it funded actuarially by the year 2000. I would hope that this bill could be ultimately stricken. We are removing from consideration under this pension bill the associate county judges, and what does that mean? That means that this pension fund will then be available to other than those judges and that those judges we will fund separately over and above what we are looking at here in the future as state employees. Why do we take associate county judges out of the judges' pension plan? Now the committee statement says that this bill provides that the final four years of their salary shall be the basis. Let's look at the judge Senator Chambers mentioned who has been on the bench for twenty years and retiring. Twenty years ago he was being paid \$11,000, and he was contributing to this pension fund on that basis. Now we are going to move him up and the four years are not in this bill...they are in there by some kind of a left-handed reference, but we are going to move him up to just the last four years of consideration, which means that we are automatically...we are automatically increasing his pension by about thirty percent. Now that we don't mention

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