

come up for consideration if a costly dental health care provision comes in. So it might be implemented in a future year without a total impact on the budget whatsoever if they decided to take and it is wide open as to the percentage of cost that might be involved. They will undoubtedly consider this in future salary raises. So in a total package it does not necessarily entail a fiscal impact. It could but does not involve that necessarily for the future and would not this year.

SENATOR RUMERY: But we do not know for sure but what there would be a fiscal impact in future years then?

SENATOR BURROWS: No, this obviously is here. If the administration or the Governor's office decided to give a portion of dental benefits in addition to what they would be giving, say in salary increase, that would involve a fiscal impact but I think it is very doubtful that the Governor's office is going to give this without consideration back on the salary increase and the fiscal impact is definitely unknown what it might be in future years.

SENATOR RUMERY: But as of this year there would be no fiscal impact on the state treasury then?

SENATOR BURROWS: That is correct.

SENATOR RUMERY: Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Burrows, do you wish to speak again?

SENATOR BURROWS: No.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Remmers.

SENATOR REMMERS: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, I would like to support this bill. We are speaking of the fiscal impact it has right now. I believe as Senator Burrows has explained that this would be a matter of negotiations that the state can use in negotiating with the employees. I think it is a measure that state employees deserve. I believe we all realize that group dental insurance or group insurance of any kind is cheaper than individual insurance. I know that in the education field that teachers, many teachers have had it for a long time. In our school we've had the dental insurance included for a long time and I think the state employees deserve an opportunity to have group dental insurance and it can be used as a negotiating item for the state.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Wagner.