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LB 244

SENATOR WAGNER: I have a question of Senator Burrows if he will please.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Burrows, do you yield?

SENATOR BURROWS: Certainly.

SENATOR WAGNER: Senator Burrows, I guess for my own edification approximately how many people could this affect, how many state employees? Do you have any idea?

SENATOR BURROWS: Approximately fifteen thousand.

SENATOR WAGNER: About fifteen thousand. Do you have any idea then how much the employee might pay in if this were to go through?

SENATOR BURROWS: Well this would be up to the administration in deciding the package that they agreed on. The maximum dollar involvement would be approximately \$3,000,000 or slightly over which would involve, if you were comparing this back with salary increase, a maximum if fully covered of approximately 1½% salary increase. Now I think the most logical combination would be a lesser factor or a shared basis if the state decides to enter in as a portion of the benefits-salary package in a future year, the probability I would think would be a lesser or a fraction of 1% salary increase involvement across from this as you went into it in a future year.

SENATOR WAGNER: Could you put that in terms of like dollars per month per individual?

SENATOR BURROWS: Well on an option one, single, we have \$4 per month; option two, five; and option one, family plan of \$17.50; option two, \$21.44 per month.

SENATOR WAGNER: Okay, thank you very kindly.

SENATOR BURROWS: The figures I gave were the most expensive plan possible and what I think is realistic to look at is a fraction actually of 1% salary increase in total dollar involvement if the state goes into a health plan rather than as high as a percent and a half which would be full coverage by the state.

SENATOR WAGNER: Okay, thank you, Senator.

SENATOR BURROWS: Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Koch. Senator Koch, do you want to... well I guess Senator Burrows can close. The Chair recognizes Senator Koch.