

sixty days after death the option of election to receive the member's accumulated contribution in one lump sum. If no election is made, the spouse would receive the benefits under the joint and survivor benefit system. Many of us in here remember Senator Schmit's description of some bills that are brought to us. He points out that they don't cost anything, they don't do any harm and they do very little good. I would submit that this bill does not cost anything, there is no fiscal impact. It certainly doesn't do any harm but it has a chance to do a great deal of good. I ask your support for the bill.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Kahle.

SENATOR KAHLE: Mr. Speaker and members, I met with a group of teachers the other evening and had some questions and I would like to perhaps ask some of those of Senator Rumery if he would yield please. We are so close together here we could do this but you would miss out on the conversation.

SENATOR RUMERY: Undoubtedly it would be stimulating.

SENATOR KAHLE: The total amount of money that would be paid out from the pension fund, would that be similar or different under these provisions?

SENATOR RUMERY: The total amount of money that would be paid out would be the amount of money that the employee had paid into the fund himself or herself and the rest of it that was put in by the school district would be, or whatever system they were under, would be left there and the surviving spouse would get this small payment each month as the whole system...as had been planned for the whole system.

SENATOR KAHLE: So let's say this individual had a rather young wife, she could get payments over quite a long period of time?

SENATOR RUMERY: Right.

SENATOR KAHLE: Okay, I think I understand. Where would this money come from then that she would be paid over this long period of time? Are there sufficient funds in there for that kind of a program?

SENATOR RUMERY: Oh, yes, it would come from the school district funds that had been paid into the system. That money is there and it was intended, of course, that this should be paid...in the beginning it was intended that it would be used for living expenses for the spouse.