

April 24, 1981

LB 394

SPEAKER MARVEL: Any further discussion? Okay. All those in favor of the Stoney amendment as presented vote aye, opposed vote no. Record the vote.

CLERK: 5 ayes, 13 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the Stoney amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Motion lost.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Vickers and Witala move to amend the committee amendments by amending the Goodrich amendment by striking the sentence, "In no event shall a negative balance employer pay a contribution rate of greater than 5%".

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Vickers, do you want to take the motion?

SENATOR VICKERS: Okay. Mr. Chairman and members, this is the second half of the Goodrich amendment that we just adopted a little bit ago, and I apologize, I should have asked to divide the question at that time. I guess I didn't realize that there was that much strength to get the Goodrich amendment adopted. The Goodrich amendment, if you recall, put a limit on the amount of funds that could be collected. Well, it lowered the limit. I will put it that way. There isn't any limit right now. The bill calls for a 3 percent limit. Senator Goodrich's amendment lowered it down to 1 3/4, I think. Is that correct? And then he also put a limit on the solvency fund...or on the negative balance that an employer could pay of no more than 5 percent. Now the arguments have been made I think very well and very long as far as the merits of the solvency fund, and since it is going to be a part of the bill and the intention is to cause those people that use the system to pay a little more for it, then it seems to me that we shouldn't have a limit on that negative balance. Also, it seems that since it takes a three year period of time to take effect, that if it does look like there is going to be a problem out there at some point in time between now and three years from now, that it certainly can be changed at that point. So I would urge the body's adoption of this amendment, which is simply to remove that 5 percent limitation on the negative balance contributor.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Goodrich.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Mr. President and members of the body, I would rise in opposition to this particular amendment, or this motion rather. What it does is eliminates the 5 percent