

there is a, I think at least, a desirable impact on, or input in legislation of this nature in which there is at least one person who has had some background and those that impact of future liabilities over which you have little control. And this is where retirement is different than any other program we establish. Any other program we establish, we can cap it, we can repeal it, we can abolish it and those things happen. Retirement, you're dealing with individuals. You're not going to go in, at least you cannot justify, we know the problem social security is facing. You cannot justify that you can worry about it later. You have to justify and anticipate that long-term impact and what ramifications it might have. And for that reason, because it is unique, you're dealing with individuals' retirement. You're affecting people very directly and individually on something that they had anticipated to exist throughout their working life. There is a much greater responsibility on what future impact that might have on the finances of the state. So I think in this particular instance, because if it is unique and most certainly, at least as long as I have been here, the Chairman of the Appropriations has been involved as a member, one time, it seems to me, Appropriations Committee, in fact, handled all retirement because it was unique, separate kind of approach and it has taken a variety of formations, but the approach that we have today was adopted. So I would urge the adoption of the amendment and it's not one that affects me at all, but I think it is exceedingly important that the long-term impact and as it relates to long-term budget impacts be represented on that committee during its discussions.

SENATOR HANNIBAL PRESIDING

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Thank you, Senator Warner. We have a motion on the desk, Mr. Clerk. Next speaker on the amendment would be Senator Nelson. You want to pass on the amendment and speak on the bill? Okay, thank you. Then Senator Haberman, please.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. Chairman, members of the body, it is very vital that the Chairman of the Appropriations Committee, regardless of who it is, be involved with the Retirement Committee. I have learned this over the past two years, that there is a direct, vital link. Now I would also like to say that I don't believe I would care to even serve on the committee if Senator Warner was not a member of that committee as it takes continuity, it takes someone who knows what has happened in the past, who knows the pitfalls, who knows what can happen because