

if there are any questions, I would be happy to try to answer them.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Discussion on the bill. Senator Nelson, Senator Hartnett on deck.

SENATOR NELSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I am sure that Senator Withem has well explained the bill but I know I, too, have had this request of me a number of times and I tried to do some checking on this, and they informed me that the only ones that they had the authority to do so was the SAC personnel, and I thought it was kind of a petty reason. They felt that if they didn't withhold on them, they may never get it. I didn't quite buy that, but I know that there are many, many retirees that are requesting this same service.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Hartnett.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I simply rise because I am one of the co-sponsors of this bill, too, and I was going to tell how many taxpayers of the state are benefited. Senator Withem has already done that in his opening statement. It simply benefits, makes it easier for about 13,000 of our taxpayers, and I think maybe even though it does cost the state government a little bit of money, I think it makes it in the eyes of some of our taxpayers in the state, and if you look at the people who have signed on the bill, it is Senator Rogers, and Senator Lamb, and so forth. These retirees with this annuity are across this state, and it simply makes the state government a better person in the eyes of some 13,000 taxpayers. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Lynch, further discussion.

SENATOR LYNCH: Mr. President and members, I, too, rise to support the legislation. I would like to offer a very human reason why we should support it. As we get older, sometimes we forget. Sometimes when we are very young, we can't remember or forget either, and forget either for that reason. Where on the other hand, there are a number of older people, some living in nursing homes, some living with their loved ones, nevertheless, they can't remember at tax time what happened. Some have no tax problems, granted, but on the other hand, it relieves them from having to worry about whether or not they did do their fair share. The people who live in my district mentioned that as one