

March 8, 1989

LB 388

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, I am operating without my file, so until I get it I would like to slip over this bill. I have got it now, all right. Well, first of all, the bill changes the age for voluntary participation in the State Employees Retirement System. Currently full-time employees who are 25 years of age with one year of service may elect to participate in the State Employees Retirement System. LB 388 would reduce the eligibility age for voluntary participation from 25 to 20 years of age. The purpose behind the legislation is that we have many, many young employees who start to work for the state at 19 and 18 years old, and they work, and they are 20 years old, they have to work for five years before they can join the retirement system. Now it seems to me that that is unfair to have somebody wait that long when they are doing good work or they would not be kept on the payroll before they are entitled to join a retirement system. This would stop proliferation of good state young employees to other entities if they are given this opportunity to join the system. The bill was not opposed. There were no no votes, and I ask you to heartily support LB 388.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Schimek, please. Your light is on. Senator Pirsch, please.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Thank you, Mr. President, I just rise to support Senator Haberman in this effort, and am glad that he didn't pass over it because I think it is a matter of fairness that these young employees should be able to start participating in the retirement plan after they have had one year of service. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Okay, thank you. Senator Haberman, would you like to close.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, I would just ask for the advancement of the bill.

PRESIDENT: Okay, the question is the advancement of the bill. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Please vote if you care to. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of LB 388.