

advanced. I withdraw it at this time. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. It is withdrawn.

CLERK: I have nothing further to the bill, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: On the advancement of the bill, Senator Nelson, followed by Senator Warner.

SENATOR NELSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I had the opportunity to sit in on this retirement and this question last year. I guess I really have no problem in the very few that Senator Haberman meant bringing them up, their retirement. However, I do have a question. Those are not actually the State Patrol retirees themselves. In most of the cases we're talking about the widows, aren't we? You know, in other words drawing half of the pay or half of the salary or something. Thank you, Senator Haberman. I do have some...my concern and my chief concern was is the amount that we would be obligating ourselves on the portion that I think Senator Hall is now going to maybe address on Select File. I would ask Senator Hall where that amendment, as it's filed in the Journal...all right, thank you, Senator Haberman. And that was where I had a concern is the long-term effect and we were talking about much larger dollars than what this is. With this, I can support LB 137 as it is without the amendment...without it further being amended.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, and again I'm not arguing the merits of the bill because I am in support of it but I've been trying to figure out how the Legislature can appropriately address the issue and maybe the proper way to do it is for me to go ahead and sign the A bill and then a deliberate decision can be made not to fund it. But the reason I have a concern is that, as Senator Haberman has stated, there is 8 million in the fund, or at least there was as of June 30, 1988. On June 30 of 1987 there was 12.8 million. It dropped 4.6 million in 12 months because earnings were less. We didn't add, I don't believe, anything in the way of benefits. And those things can happen and, you know, half of the 8 million can be gone next year. I have absolutely no objection to the improvements in the retirement system. My concern lies in the...in the broader policy that we make improvements in retirement systems based on surpluses that have been there which