

deck. Senator Conway in the hole.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, members, again I understand and appreciate Senator Bernard-Stevens' point and the desire to separate out this from the other situations we're in. But really I ask you, what can you say when you go back to your districts and let individuals know that the patrol is able to retire after 25 years at 46 years old? I know military service has got some early retirement and there are different features out there, and the work of the patrol is very important, it can be dangerous, very stressful. But I also add there are many other types of occupations out there that are not easy for people. I know, in my own father's case, he worked out at Goodyear and did different manual labor there and retired at 62, here recently, after I don't know 25 or so years there, but he was 62 years old. And I know the stress it placed on him. There are people in factories, there are people in different occupations, doing different manual labor jobs in our state that are very low paid and don't have any concept whatsoever of a chance for early retirement. They're lucky to have any retirement. And these individuals out there, struggling day in and day out, trying to do their job, knowing that they don't really have much in terms of retirement benefits, they hang on until they can get social security. And out there it's a rough life, it's a tough life, it's not easy for those people. And now to turn around and indicate, important as the job of patrolman is, that they, after 25 years, are able to receive full retirement benefits, and I think they are quite attractive retirement benefits, I think you have individuals across the state saying that's not fair. And that's what I'm saying, it isn't fair. And you'll find other public employees coming in saying it's not fair in their case. Yes, you can distinguish out patrol from other jobs, but there are other tough jobs out there. Teaching is no easy profession, and any number of other occupations are very difficult to do as well. I know the teachers themselves have been in, they want to have 30 years and out. So, if you do the patrol at 25 and out, it makes it easier to come in with the teachers for 30 and out. After the teachers get 30 and out, then the judges want 30 and out, and then the other individuals out there want the same sort of benefit. And I'm telling you, you've got a problem. I think you hold the line at this point. I think you stop this legislation. I'm not going to ask you to vote to kill it, I'm going to ask you not to vote to advance it, just not vote or whatever. I know the patrol are very important to a lot of people, but you set a bad