

CLERK: Mr. President, 834 was a bill introduced by Senator Haberman. (Read title.) Introduced on January 3 of this year, referred to the Retirement Systems Committee, advanced to General File. I have no amendments to the bill.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The Chair recognizes Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the body, as it stands now a state employee, to join the State Retirement System, must be 25 years old with 12 months of service. So we take a young person that gets out of high school, they're 18. Possibly they don't care to go on to college, but they're good with computers, they're good secretaries, they want to go down to the local district office of the state highway patrol, get a job. So this young person gets a job at 18 and then they have to wait seven years before they can join the retirement system. I think that's wrong. Let's take a young person, they get out of high school at 18, they go to a tech school, they pick up a skill there, whatever it might be, mechanics or drawing or architecture, whatever it is, they go to work for the State of Nebraska at 20-years-old and they have to wait five years before they can join the retirement system. I think that's wrong. Let's take someone that goes to college. When they get out of college they are 22-years-old. They want to go to work for the State of Nebraska. They get the job, then they find out they have to wait three years before they can join the retirement system. I feel, and I know you feel that that is wrong also. Now we want to keep the young people in Nebraska, yet we are penalizing them, we penalize them when they want to go to work for the State of Nebraska, be it highways, social services, Department of Agriculture, Correctional Services, Department of Education, Health Department or what have you. So the bill simply changes the 25 years age to 20 years, then they can voluntarily join after they have worked for the state for 12 months. I ask for the passage of LB 834, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Discussion? Questions? If not, those in favor of the advancement of LB 834 to E & R please vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of LB 834.

SPEAKER BARRETT: LB 834 advances. Proceeding then to LB 987.