

January 9, 1991

Congratulations. Move on to number 18. Senator Schimek, you have something for us?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Mr. President. I move to proceed to the election of the Retirement Committee Chairperson by secret ballot, in accordance with Statute 50-416.01.

PRESIDENT NICHOL: Thank you. You have heard the motion, all in favor say aye. Opposed nay. It is adopted. We are now open for nominations. Senator Haberman, please.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President and members of the body, the last four years as Chairman of the Retirement Committee has taught me a new language. I have learned a lot of things. All requests that have come before the committee, those that could be changed were changed, and those that should be changed but couldn't be changed, they were looked at very carefully. The Retirement Committee looks over \$1.4 billion a year in our retirement systems, and in five years, that is going to be \$2.8 billion. I understand in some states they are planning to try to get ahold of the retirement money and put it in the General Fund and put it other places. I would like to tell this body that I will resist that. The retirement funds are too important to those people who are going to retire and I will stand firm to leave that money right exactly where it is. I'd greatly appreciate your support for chairman of the committee. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT NICHOL: Thank you. Senator Nelson, please.

SENATOR NELSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I, too, would like to place my name for nomination for Chairperson of the Retirement Committee. I had the pleasure of serving on that committee two years ago for two years. It is a great learning experience and I think that I have the basic background, the basic knowledge for the important decisions that does come from that committee. I know that a lot of persons' personal lives are affected by what the decisions that come out of the Retirement Committee and, ultimately, to our body. I always pledge to seek out, hopefully, the right questions in committee and, likewise, the decisions of the committee to be moved to the body for consideration. There are a lot of people's personal lives affected by their retirement and the decisions that come out of that committee and, likewise, I am also always hopefully have the state in mind and consequences of state budget and what