

earlier. I understand you want to withdraw those.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Robinson.

CLERK: You had the first one as AM0925, Senator. Do you want to withdraw that one, right?

SENATOR ROBINSON: Yes. I want AM1001, is the one that...(inaudible)

CLERK: Right. Mr. President, Senator Robinson would move to return the bill for a specific amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Robinson.

SENATOR ROBINSON: I want to apologize for not...Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I want to apologize for not bringing this up on Select File but it is. I discussed this when this was on General file and, to refresh your memory, this bill would allow state employees one day off every four years to go to a seminar on their retirement program. What my amendment would...excuse me, that would be for everyone under 50 years of age so they could go five times if they started when they were 30. What my amendment does, and I think it's a very good substitute, they would be allowed to go once within four years of the effective date of this bill and then any new employee that would come on after that would be allowed to go to the seminar at least one time before they are 50. I think that according to Senator Haberman there is close to 8,000 members of the state retirement system, State Employees Retirement System that would be eligible. I think five times is carrying it too far and I think it is setting a precedent that we don't want to set. I know Senator Haberman has talked about the open-ended type of retirement that state employees have and I agree with him, but I think once that they have been oriented on this in the one seminar, I think it is their responsibility to keep up on the retirement program after that. With that, I would move to return the bill back to Select File.

SENATOR WARNER: PRESIDING

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Haberman. Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the body, I rise to oppose the amendment and am more than pleased to tell you why.