

thing to do. Some employees of the state are allowed that compensation because of their position in the state reserves, in the State Guard, and because they chose not to go into the State Guard, but to go into another branch of reserve system, they are not compensated. So it seems to me to be a fair thing to do. We, as employers of these people, I think send a message by this. A number of these employees, 61 employees, their positions have not been filled while they have been gone, so there is very little fiscal impact in this. Many of the employees are making more money being on active duty than they are as state employees, so there would be no fiscal impact or loss there. So it seems to me that we are sending a message to our current employees and to future employees, and it is an encouragement to all of our citizens and employees, to become active and to serve their country, and to go into that position, and to not be fearful that if they do so, that they are going to lose dramatic income, and that their families who are left behind are going to suffer the loss of that income. So it seems to be a good thing for me to do and that is...for us to do and that is why I offer the amendment and offered the original bill, and I still believe it is the right thing for us to do. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Horgan. We will now vote on the Horgan amendment to the committee amendments. All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Have you all voted? Have you all voted? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 8 ayes, 13 nays, Madam President, on adoption of the amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: The amendment fails. Is there anything further on the desk?

CLERK: Nothing further to the committee amendments, Madam President.

PRESIDENT MOUL: We will now recognize senators who wish to speak to the committee amendments. Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Madam President, members of the body, I am not going to repeat any of the things that the Chairman of the Government Committee has already expressed, but it was a decision made by the members of the committee, given the