

at all in the original proposal or the original amendments of LB 549. However, it was brought to our attention that there is...there was one problem, or still is, out there and that is in regards to employees that were terminated and in the past they would withdraw, he or she may withdraw the amount of the employees...contributed to the employee's portion of the retirement account. And the problem that was discovered that if that employee went to the grievance committee and was reinstated, that they could not in turn get their previous amount of retirement back again. The way the law originally stated was that the employee chose an option to take it out or the current statute transfers the state portion to the state employees' retirement fund, that it would be used for expenses and administrative costs to the system. And what then happened was that this mechanism created a problem for the employee who was wrongfully terminated and, if he files his grievances and subsequently reinstated, and the way the current law is there is no method for that employee to again get his portion of the state's...or the state's portion of the retirement account back to his retirement account. And the amendment would amend Section 84-1321 to provide that if an employee who was terminated and files a grievance, the state's contribution or the employer's portion of the account would be held until the grievance is resolved. And all transactions involving the employer would be suspended, in effect frozen, and if the employee was reinstated, the state portion would be returned to the employee's retirement account. And if the grievance is denied, the state's portion would be handled as before, in other words credited to the state employees retirement fund. When the grievance procedure and the collective bargaining units were adopted, one of the concerns was that an employment...an employee with a successful grievance be made whole again and this amendment fulfills that intent by restoring the employment's (sic) retirement benefit. And I, personally, can't see any problem with this. That employee should be entitled to those benefits that if he was reinstated for employment. And, with that, I just move for the adoption of the amendment.

SENATOR CONWAY: Thank you, Senator Nelson. I have Senator Abboud's light on. Are you wishing to speak to the Nelson amendment? Senator Abboud. Senator Abboud waives off. Senator Moore. Senator Moore waives off. There are no other lights. Senator Nelson, do you have a closing?

SENATOR NELSON: I believe I fully explained it and I just move