

SENATOR LANDIS: And the right to do that is predicated on what, a contractual obligation? It's not statutory, is it?

SENATOR CHIZEK: No.

SENATOR LANDIS: It's not because there's state law.

SENATOR CHIZEK: No.

SENATOR LANDIS: And the contract runs from whom to whom? Who are the parties in that contract?

SENATOR CHIZEK: From the school board to the teacher, the city to the city employees, county to the county employees.

SENATOR LANDIS: The promise is in the contract between the city and the employee, or the school and the teacher that when they retire they can keep their health insurance in place?

SENATOR CHIZEK: As I understand, it's with the insurance company, Senator.

SENATOR LANDIS: Who has promised? A contract has somebody on both sides of it. On one side is the insurance company, you're telling me. Who's on the other side of that promise?

SENATOR CHIZEK: The employees?

SENATOR LANDIS: Employees? Ah, the employ...no the teachers don't make the promise with Blue Cross/Blue Shield. They're a beneficiary.

SENATOR CHIZEK: Are you asking me who the promise is made to?

SENATOR LANDIS: Yes. Yes.

SENATOR CHIZEK: I assume that it's the contract itself, Senator.

SENATOR LANDIS: All right, and the parties to that contract are the school board and Blue Cross/Blue Shield, basically?

SENATOR CHIZEK: Yes.