

advancement of the bill. Senator Cudaback.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Mr. Speaker, members, somebody asked me why would I take as my priority bill a bill that would increase costs to the counties. Well, I guess my answer to that is the fact that I'm always looking for a good investment. We train the people, they learn and somebody else takes them away from us. If we don't keep up with the ones that take them away from us, we're going to lose them, it's just that simple. As we all know the county salaries aren't that great anyhow, average of \$1,200 a month, it's pretty hard to live on \$1,200 per month. It's a good investment. If we keep them, the state is hiring more people, they're more efficient and everything else. The cities and state currently pay more into the system than we do, so this will bring us up to about the level with the state and with the cities. All the counties boards agree that this is a good investment. This does not effect Lancaster and Douglas Counties. I should say that again, it does not affect Lancaster and Douglas Counties, they have their own...their own system. This does not take effect immediately, it gives the county boards time for adjustment so they can add it to their budgets for the year. And I guess it's pretty much self-explanatory, it doesn't need a lot of explaining. Senator Nelson stated the facts and I would just urge your support for this bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. Senator Nelson, on the advancement of the bill.

SENATOR NELSON: Yes, I...I agree with Senator Cudaback. I want to mention one other...you know me and figures. If I recall the...see, some of the county retirement have only been in about five years. We passed a bill forcing the counties in the retirement system. And let me tell you, and I'm just strictly off the top of my head that the average retirement of the county employees, I think, was 8,300 and some dollars a year, not a large retirement at all. They are not the highest paid employees, and a lot of them are good, dedicated employees. And Senator Cudaback mentioned, you know, that they're trained and they leave. And still it's very difficult for them to even retire on the amount of retirement that they get. So, with that, I just move for its advancement.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Nelson. Anyone wishing to speak to the advancement of LB 1057? Seeing no one, Senator