

in there who is fresh, who is young, who is energetic and who is ready to teach and particularly at the teaching level. That's, I think, where the major impact that the Rule of 85 will be. I think it's to the benefit all around not only costwise, but as I said, also educationwise to implement this aspect of LB 505 and I would urge you to reject the Beutler amendment.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Will. Senator Wickersham, your light is next.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Thank you, Mr. President. I also rise in opposition to the Beutler amendment. I think Senator Will has made many of the points that I would reiterate but first, I want to make a comment. Senator Wesely came back to me after the last time I spoke and said that he thought I had suggested he was unfamiliar with the subject matter of retirement. I'm sorry, Senator Wesely, if that was the suggestion contained in my remarks. What I meant to do was point out to Senator Wesely that LB 130 was on General File in the implications of that bill. Certainly wouldn't suggest that one of my predecessors as Chair of the Retirement Committee was unfamiliar with the subject matter. I don't know how long he labored in the vineyards of retirement but...well he says too long, but maybe it wasn't. Maybe after this, Senator Wesely, you'll think it wasn't long enough, I don't know. But at any rate, I do oppose the Beutler amendment for a variety of reasons. As I've indicated, a couple of those reasons have been stated by Senator Will. First, I don't believe we have any interest as a state, I don't think we have any interest as an employer or as the body that oversees retirement systems of producing retirement systems that literally keep people harnessed to jobs long after they might have an interest in doing something else. And whether that is related to the issue of the stress that they have on the job or whether they are still interested in their job, it doesn't make any difference to me. The fact of the matter is that if you have people that are age 65 that are burned out, who do not perform their job because they're tired, because they have lost interest in the subject matter, we have an interest in seeing those people be able to leave the system if they want to. LB 505 creates that opportunity within the Omaha school retirement system. It will allow those people who are no longer interested, who no longer perhaps even want to be teachers, those people who should no longer be teachers to leave the system and to do that with some kind of security for their future. If they don't have that kind of security, they won't