

SENATOR HALL: One minute.

SENATOR WESELY: ...I'm not trying to imply that when I talk about Social Security that our system is anything like that. It is not. It's just that overall we're headed for some real problems with retirement not specifically in this area but generally with an increase in retirees, a decrease in workers, and the fact that a number of the systems that we count on are shaky, Social Security in particular. I think we have to be ever cognizant of the direction we're headed and be very careful as we move forward on retirement issues. And I want to also note that those of us, if you think there's any direct connection in terms of the teachers being the target here, any early retirement plan that's been out there Senator Beutler and I and some others have raised issue with. It doesn't matter whether you're a judge or anybody else. Early retirement is of concern because again of the trend lines and the concern in the future of what may consequently happen. But I do rise in support of the Beutler amendment. Thank you.

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

SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I rise in opposition to the Beutler amendment. I want to make one simple point and then I'd like to yield the rest of my time to Senator Wickersham. But the point that I would like to make is this as we're wading through these amendments. The Omaha Public School System supports LB 505, and I seriously doubt that they would support this bill unless they anticipated some cost savings and that is outlined in the fiscal note, it's outlined in the handout that I have distributed. The simple fact is they think that LB 505 will save them money not only in the long term but in the short term there are going to be actual cost savings to the district, and that is the simple fact that you need to bear in mind as you're considering this legislation and voting on it. With that, I would yield my time to Senator Wickersham.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Will. Senator Wickersham, you are recognized. You have approximately four minutes.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Thank you, Mr. President. I would also rise in opposition to this amendment from Senator Beutler. The proposal that has been brought to the Legislature from the school system, and I would emphasize the school system. It is