

fashion, to be paid. But that is always up to the State Treasurer to do that, I mean he can say yes, or he possibly could say no on a request for.... And I might go over that just a little bit. In general, claims filed against a political subdivision must be allowed by the Tort Claims Act or other designated statute. The act says that the claims are allowed and how the claims are handled. In Section 13-918, the section dealing with payments for the judgments against subdivisions, that is the section it's allowed in. The procedure for paying the funds if the subdivision has insufficient funds, the funds are available to pay the judgment, then the governing body must include sufficient funds in the budget for the next year. But there again if they are up against that lid how are they going to accumulate those funds? And the State Treasurer decides if they should receive the loan by looking at three factors, determining the validity of the judgment, the inability of the subdivision, the period of time which it takes the subdivision to repay the loan. And if the Treasurer determines the loan is proper, then the loan shall be made to the subdivision with a 1.5 percent per annum interest. The State Treasurer determines how much the subdivision must repay each year and the subdivision must budget and levy a sufficient amount to meet this obligation until a loan is repaid. But if that district is up against its levy limit then how can they levy over that to repay those loans? So I ask you to take a good look at 1114 and see what could happen in some of these situations. I believe it is necessary that we pass this amendment for the sake of those districts who find themselves in the uneasy situation as I have described and are up against...between a rock and a hard spot, let's call it that. I think this would help them. Matter of fact, I know it would. We set out the early retirement to try to get the initiative going on school reorganization, reduction in forces...in the policies that are set out. Why, early retirement can be a valuable tool in lowering those parts of the budget which are the highest, which is salary. I know there are arguments that the older teachers are the best teachers, but we all know that when we get to a certain age we sometimes get complacent, and I believe that happens with teachers also. And if they want to retire, the school has the policy in effect to do this. I believe we should give them some help to get that done. So I ask for your advancement of 1114. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Janssen. I would like to