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provisions so that the repayment must be completed within five years of termination of employment or reemployment. Also, under the state and county retirement systems, LB 703 provides for the employer to pick up member contributions through payroll deductions that should have been made while an employee is on military leave. These contributions, and I want to point that out, are at the employee cost and are pretax. The bill also cleans up cost-of-living adjustment created under LB 532 in 1988 for the judges, the State Patrol, and the school retirement systems. This change is necessary to ensure no member is receiving a COLA that exceeds the change in the Consumer Price Index. Also, the bill removes language regarding independent contractors and employees, and replaces those terms with an individual, and more clearly defines "an individual". For local plans, it clarifies that income should be called compensation and that compensation may not exceed the limits established by the IRS. Finally, it also clarifies the investments which these deferred compensation assets may be invested in. LB 703 also provides that in the state retirement system a board can require a medical exam of a disability beneficiary if before age 55. The normal retirement age in the state plan was changed to age 55 in 1997. LB 703 makes other minor technical changes, including the removal of redundant language regarding the state retirement system membership. With that, I conclude my opening remarks and ask for your support on this bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Stuhr, you're recognized to open on the committee amendments. (Standing Committee amendment AM0193 is found on page 535 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR STUHR: The committee amendments offer some additional technical changes. I would like to point out in Section 7 reference to the Internal Revenue Service is replaced with Internal Revenue Code. Also, compliance with the trust requirement by January 1st, 1999, is removed, as that date is now passed. Another amendment, the term "national" is added to several sections where the Consumer Price Index is referenced, and successor language is added to the Consumer Price Index language found in Sections 6, 14, 15, and 17. If the index is discontinued or replaced, this language will allow the board to use a substitute representative measurement for cost of living. I would be happy to answer any questions and ask for your