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SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you.

SENATOR STUHR: Yes.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Dierks. Further discussion, Senator Hartnett.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. President, members of the body, I support the bill and the amendments or the amendments and the bill. I guess I had...I had a bill this year in the Retirement Committee. We didn't have an actuary study, which I hope to accomplish, but we in the area of state patrol, we have not done a very good job with some of the older retirees. The retirees pay, there's a hundred and...238 retirees, state patrol retirees. The retiree pay runs from, and this is from 1-14-99, runs from \$4,000 down to a tremendous amount of \$498. We did pass a bill last year that helped some, 532, but it really hasn't done enough, and so I'll be working with the...hopefully with the Reven...or with the Retirement Committee to see if we can help some of the people at the bottom, bring them up. It's a different issue than we're talking about here, but I think...I think, we, as a state, where these people have put in very good time to the state, 25 years, and we're paying them really, really...don't get very much money as part of the retirement. So I'm just simply bringing that up as an issue that I will be addressing with the Retirement Committee and with the, hopefully with the full body. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Hartnett. Senator Janssen would like to announce the following guests are visiting the Legislature, 62 fifth graders from Linden Elementary School in Fremont, (introduced teachers). They are seated in the north balcony. If you'd rise, we'd like to welcome you. Senator Wickersham, for discussion on the committee amendments to LB 674.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Thank you, Mr. President. I want to echo Senator Wehrbein's comments, and to some extent Senator Stuhr's as well. I became aware last night that the actuarial study for the patrol and the judges might not be as complete or as accurate as we would want to use in making a decision about the committee amendments. But...and we will have that corrected,