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LB 320

SENATOR STUHR: So you kind of talk about actuarial dollars and real dollars.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Beutler and Senator Stuhr. Senator Raikes.

SENATOR RAIKES: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd call the question.

SPEAKER BROMM: Do I see five hands? The question has been called. I do. The question then is, shall debate cease? All in favor of ceasing debate please vote aye, and opposed nay. Have you all voted that care to vote? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 1 nay, Mr. President, to cease debate.

SPEAKER BROMM: Debate does cease. Senator Brashear, you're recognized to close on your amendment.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, thank you for your attention and for the discussion. The amendment is a part of a package that has been actively negotiated between the Judiciary Committee, the Retirement Committee, with participation of Senator Wehrbein from Appropriations and others. There are several questions that I have been asked which I want to clarify on the record. Yes, it has been a part of the totality of the discussions that the judges' salary increase bill, which trails hereafter on General File, would in fact go away if this is satisfactory to and acceptable to the body. This is a problem that, as I have said to a number of people, has been around as long as I've been here and has never gotten resolved, both dealing with increasing the judges' contribution, increasing the...enhancing the benefits, and taking care of funding the deficit. Senator Cudaback asked me to clarify...and I think this is where Senator Stuthman was going. And I hope I didn't confuse the issue. The...this portion of the filing fee is not waivable, because it is...would be legally unacceptable to have a judge have discretion over whether he or she did or did not waive that portion of a filing fee or court costs which directly benefits them. In other words, we can't give that discretion to the judge, so this is a nonwaivable portion. So that will cause us to have to examine