

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

March 23, 2004      LB 1097

repay the actual earnings on the value of those benefits rather than just being given the option to repay. It would add language to correctly describe the joint and survivor benefit available to a surviving spouse when a plan member dies before retiring under both the county and state employees retirement systems. The bill would clarify the current procedures used by NPERS in calculating a cost of living adjustment benefit increase for the judges, school, and State Patrol retirement systems. It would also make changes so that if a plan member in the school employees retirement system repays withdrawn contributions more than three years after withdrawal, an 8 percent assumed rate of return would have to be repaid rather than the current actual rate. The bill would move monies currently in the Retired Teachers Supplemental Benefits Fund and would transfer it into the School Retirement Fund to conform with prior statutory changes. The bill would permit a waiver under the school employees retirement system for a doctor's examination in certain situations where there is a medical disability involving hospice treatment and a terminal illness. It would remove language that was not repealed under previous cleanup legislation. Finally, the bill would change the leave with pay provisions for both state and county plan members who are under 50 years of age and attend a retirement seminar provided by NPERS. It would permit that such seminars may be provided on a partial-day basis, spread over a number of days rather than only during a full workday. Again, LB 1097 is a technical bill, and its provisions would help to clarify a number of areas within statute and also make minor changes to the administration of the public employees retirement plans overseen by NPERS. With that, I give the rest of my time back to the Chair. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Senator Stuhr. Committee amendments, Madam Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Stuhr, as Chair of the Retirement Committee, would offer committee amendments.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Senator Stuhr, on the committee amendments.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the