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

May 18, 2005 LB 478

constitutional muster to allow them to be treated in this way. They don't have to have a security clearance. And if people speculate, as Senator Connealy did, and others say, well, maybe this and maybe that. You go by what the language of the law is, and a person does not have to have a security clearance. That's it, as far as I'm concerned. But you want to run with it? I'll let you run with it off General File, but it's not going to get a free ride on Select File. And maybe I should take all the time because the Speaker may not give us enough time on Select,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...but I'll find a way. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you. Senator Beutler, followed by Senator Landis.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Landis, I wanted to ask you about another possible variation here that seems somewhat troublesome to me. But when I was in the United States Army, I was part of an accounting office in Thailand, and we had a very high-ranked civilian accounting person who would be getting a civilian, federal civilian, retirement situation. He was classified. It seems to me that if the rational basis of this amendment is the work and the jobs that need to be filled, and if this case would hold at the federal level as opposed to being a state level case, a case that says you can't distinguish between military and civilian pensions at the federal level, is it...would it be fair to say that there are civilian people with classifications that could also be hired by the Department of Defense to do this And if these people had civil federal pensions, doesn't that present another possible problem? And I guess, going all the way through it, if you're going to create this kind of rational basis, would it make sense to include civil federal retirees as part of the class that could benefit?

SENATOR LANDIS: I'll answer that if I've been given the time.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Landis.