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

May 18, 2005 LB 478

for example, of different kinds of federal pensions?

SENATOR LANDIS: In fact, one of the...the basis there was the intragovernmental immunity argument, and which is a different test. And there it's saying all federal pensions are treated different than all state pensions. It's comparing the two levels of government. And you don't have that situation here because not all military pensions are being treated alike, not all federal pensions are being treated alike, nor all, you know, states...in other words, we haven't used federal government. And the distinguishing characteristic is not the federal government versus state government, and it's not even military pensions versus other pensions. It is that you are a taxpayer working for this kind of an employer...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...and you happen to have...be a retired military. It doesn't...

SENATOR CUDABACK: You may continue, Senator Landis. It's your time now.

Thank you. It doesn't implicate the SENATOR LANDIS: comparative terms of the intragovernmental immunity test that are otherwise there, where you're comparing all federal...all (inaudible) federal pensions versus other kinds of pensions. It builds from the employee up. Now if the argument is, can there be an argument, the answer is yes, but that's true about everything. Might there be a challenge? Absolutely. there be a question? Absolutely, but that's true of each and every bill we ever pass. But there is an arguable rational basis, I think, for the construct of what we've done that meets a governmental purpose, and the governmental purpose of economic development is sufficient and for which you then have to have a rational reason for what you do. You do not have to have perfect reason or to have achieved it perfectly either. don't have to have eradicated all of a wrong or achieved all of a good to have achieved a rational basis under the equal protection at that standard of interpretation.