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May 19, 2005 LB 348

see if I can ask Senator Stuhr a question in her capacity as Chair of the Retirement Committee.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Stuhr, would you yield?

SENATOR STUHR: Yes.

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: Senator Stuhr, didn't we just this year, this body, increase the contribution by teachers and by state patrolmen to their retirement benefits, because of some structural problems with the fiduciary angle of their plans?

SENATOR STUHR: Yes, Senator Synowiecki, we met with both groups prior to the legislative session, and both groups were willing to come forth and have an additional increase, a short time, we said for the, you know, for the next biennium.

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: And if my recollection serves me correctly, the teachers, in particular, kind of stepped up to the plate, participated in solving the problem with the retirement plan. Isn't that a fair synopsis?

SENATOR STUHR: Yes, it is, Senator Synowiecki.

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: Now the judges have a very similar problem relative to their retirement plan, in terms of inequities or in terms of imbalances?

SENATOR STUHR: Yes, we're looking at \$644,000 from the judges this year...requirement.

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: Now both the teachers and State Patrol are contributing and participating in solving their problems with their retirement plans. Isn't that right?

SENATOR STUHR: Yes.

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: Under LB 348, are the judges participating, in any degree whatsoever, to the imbalance in their retirement program?