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FLOOR DEBATE

April 13, 2006 LB 366, 817A

this one also. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Any discussion? There are no lights on. Senator Chambers, did you wish to close? The question before the body is, shall LB 817A pass notwithstanding the objections of the Governor? All in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Have you all voted on the motion to override who care to? Record please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal pages 1668-1669.) 38 ayes, 6 nays, 3 present and not voting, 2 excused and not voting, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The motion to override was successful. LB 817A passes. I do raise the call. Mr. Clerk, next motion, please.

CLERK: Mr. President, the next motion I have is by Senator Stuhr. She would move that LB 366 become law notwithstanding the objections of the Governor.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Stuhr, to open.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. I move to override the veto on LB 366 based upon the principles of fairness. LB 366 removes the discrimination between lower- and higher-paid state employees by going to a flat contribution rate of 4.8 percent, and also permits state and county employees to immediately contribute to their retirement upon hiring. Yesterday, during the rules discussion, I spoke to you about the importance of having a separate and independent Retirement Committee focused solely on public employee retirement issues. I also mentioned two goals for members on the Retirement Committee were to maintain adequate retirement plans for each public employee group, and to bring about uniformity among the state pension plans. Let me address the goal of uniformity. The judges, the State Patrol, and the school employees' plans each allow immediate participation of their plan members; the state and county plans do not. Currently, state and county employees, regardless of age, have to wait one year before being able to contribute to their