

have the distinction of bringing the first noncontroversial bill in front of you. It is also the first bill that the Governor vetoed but I feel strongly enough about this bill that I thought it was worthy to come back for the state employees to take a chance on a veto override. There has been a lot of pros and cons on this and I would like to point out a few things this morning about this bill that I think are misunderstood among many people, and one of the things I would like to point out this morning that all the fiscal notes, the actual fiscal dollar and cents notes on this bill, was made out and distributed by Blue Cross-Blue Shield. Not our Fiscal Office, they came through there but they were all by Blue Cross-Blue Shield. Well, during the time period that I had a chance to study this and visit with Blue Cross-Blue Shield, there were a couple of glaring things that I thought needed to be explained and explored a little further. And one particular point that bothered me on their projections, on the fiscal note, is that the employees that retire at an elderly age, where it would be the 59 to 64 age bracket, because this bill just offers this service, this added service, until age 65. So we are basically looking at the age 59 through 64. Well, it was not taken into consideration of the replacement workers of a younger age group.

SPEAKER NICHOL: (Gavel) Let's hold our conversation tone down a little bit. It is getting noisy and we can't hear the speaker. Thank you. Excuse me, Senator Pappas.

SENATOR PAPPAS: But this younger age group was not taken into consideration which would lower the average age of the working pool which would lower the cost. It would lower the cost substantially. Also another particular area I didn't think was quite right on their projections is most of their projections dealt with 10% retirement or 5% retirement of the entire work pool and that would come to an average of either 500 to 1,000 people retiring yearly, and 500 to 1,000 retiring yearly is roughly five times more than the last five year average.

SPEAKER NICHOL: (Gavel) Please let's have it a little quieter in here so we can hear the speaker. Thank you, Senator Pappas.

SENATOR PAPPAS: And their projections also took into consideration their projections about how it would increase the cost of the retiree but it is only good until age 65. Right now the State Patrol, the State Patrol has to retire mandatory at age 60 so this would benefit