

May 16, 1983

LB 154, 219

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Record vote read. See page 2296, Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Chambers, for what purpose do you rise?

ASSISTANT CLERK: Senator Chambers changing from yes to no. Senator Chronister voting yes.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Lamb, did you wish to be recognized? No.

ASSISTANT CLERK: The vote is 37 (sic) ayes, 8 nays, 3 present and not voting, 1 excused and not voting, Mr. President. (36 ayes.)

SPEAKER NICHOL: LB 154 passes. LB 219.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, there is a motion on the desk. Senator Pirsch would move to return LB 219 to Select File for specific amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Pirsch.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Members of the body, if you will recall Senator Beutler changed LB 219 on Final Reading before and made the change to put the age of retirement back from fifty-five to sixty and kept it "after five years of service". I believe this body accepted that because they were concerned about the fiscal impact and the problems that come with retirement. However, Ken Steinmiller, who is in charge of the Public Employees Retirement Systems said that the change from requiring five rather than thirty years of service and the attainment of age sixty is not a real big change because with the approval of the department, which is the old language, an employee may retire once they have reached sixty regardless of their years of service. But there is change on page 5, lines 22 to 26 which have a great fiscal impact. For those state employees who cease employment with the state before reaching retirement, they may choose to keep their retirement benefits in until they reach age sixty and at this time they receive their share plus the share of the state which is vested. But LB 219 besides changing and adding part-time employees to our retirement, this is a big change, besides decreasing the age of participation in vesting to twenty-five, we did lower that, this changes the time period for the hundred percent vesting from nine years and two months to five years employment within the state and therein is the big fiscal impact that you see on your pink sheet. Under the current law the vesting percentage is a hundred after nine years... a hundred percent after nine years and two months of plan participation.