

retirement fund. There are ways that the county can improve their fringe benefits, if they wish, by adding to salaries if they are inadequate, or adding to salaries so that employees might go into IRA funds. There are many ways that this can be done. It is my intention to vote against this kind of legislation. I don't believe that it has had study enough. I think that if you do it for one particular segment of employees that you've got problems with other county employees and you'll have problems with other counties as well. If you are going to start it, let's do it up front after a study and make it the same for everybody. It will be my thought at this time and my recommendation that the Retirement Committee introduce a resolution for an interim study on this problem. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Mr. President, members of the body, I was not planning to rise to again debate this because I thought we had a healthy debate on the matter last Friday, before we adjourned. However, a couple of the points that were brought up on Friday were once again brought up here today. And I think, because of that, I'd just like to respond to those once again in case people forget what the response was last Friday. I guess we are hearing the two typical sorts of arguments that you always hear on this sort of thing, if you do it for one everybody will want it. Senator Lamb's statement was similarly made by a couple of other senators last Friday. I guess to me that just doesn't hold any water, particularly if you look at the history of a bill that would have mandated every county in the state to set up a retirement system for their deputy sheriffs. That has been introduced in the past, and it has been buried in the past. It has never, I think at least since I've been down here, it's never got to the point where a bill that mandates a separate retirement system for all deputy sheriffs in the State of Nebraska has never even made it to the floor for debate. It takes 25 votes to pass that measure now, it will take 25 votes in the future. I think if you want to argue against whether Cherry County and Hooker County and Hall County and Lincoln County should have this sort of a system, then your argument ought to be on a bill that would do that to them. Don't use those arguments against this amendment that merely deals with Sarpy County. You've got your three Sarpy County senators coming in saying we want it in our county. We've got our county board saying, yes, we want it