

teachers for the Omaha system. What it does is it makes a small adjustment for those that have been retired already and the funds for this are in the retirement system already so there is no levy to the present employees and no increased cost to the school board or to the present employees. It has been signed off on by the Retirement Board of the Omaha system, the Board of Education of the system, and the administration of the system. They all agreed to it. For that reason, I would ask you to advance the bill.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Senator Wesely, on the bill.

SENATOR WESELY: Just a question of Senator Goodrich.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Senator Goodrich, would you answer please.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Sure.

SENATOR WESELY: Mr. President, so this is just a cost of living adjustment. Is there...how much?

SENATOR GOODRICH: It is not really a cost of living. We refer to cost of living because of constitutional requirement. It is just a one-time adjustment in their retirement benefits. For example, if you have been retired, and you would have to be retired for a year prior to September 1 of this year before you can even participate in this, but if you have been retired for one to two years, you get a 3 1/2 percent adjustment in your benefits. If you have been retired for two to three years, you get a 7 percent increase in your retirement benefits.

SENATOR WESELY: I see.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Those teachers do, and if you have been over three years, it is a 10 1/2 percent adjustment.

SENATOR WESELY: So it is for the current retirees in the system, not for the future?

SENATOR GOODRICH: Right, just the past.

SENATOR WESELY: Okay. I think this makes sense. We had a bill that I had in for past retirees to try and provide for some recognition of the fact that these people that retire