

April 10, 1996

LB 681, 931, 1069, 1070, 1090, 1104
LR 343

We have not only tried to address the specific issues that arise here, but all the peripheral issues about why it is here at all. But it is here and there is a significant amount of money at stake. There are a significant number of persons who can be affected. Again, I will say to you at the cost of being repetitive and Senator Chambers brought it out I believe in his questions to Senator Witek, we do have a choice to do nothing. But that is not a resolution of this issue. If we do nothing, the issue stays and stays and stays. And it will stay literally for tens, maybe 20 years, maybe 30 years, however long someone that's affected lives. The issue in my mind will remain open. I cannot assure you that the litigation that the Attorney General will be successful in all respects. It is my opinion, based on the advice that we have received from Mr. Achelpohl and our analysis, that we will be successful in finding that these individuals that are at risk have benefits in the system. I believe that will be the result. That does not necessarily have to be the result, but I believe that will be the result. The Attorney General I think also believes that will be the result because he's indicated in his opinion that these affected...

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: ...noncertificated employees have contract rights in the system and, in fact, he's advised the PERB to continue administering the system in accordance with that expectation. I want that expectation to become more than an expectation. I want that expectation to be reality, and that's the gist of this resolution.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Wickersham. You've heard the closing. The question is the adoption of LR 343. All in favor vote aye, opposed no. We're voting on LR 343. Have you all voted? Record, please

CLERK: (Read record vote. See pages 2011-12 of the Legislative Journal.) 30 ayes, 12 nays on the adoption of the resolution.

SENATOR CROSBY: The resolution is adopted. Mr. Clerk, do you have an announcement?

CLERK: I do, Madam President. First of all, bills read on Final Reading this morning have been presented to the Governor. (Re: LB 681, LB 931, LB 1069, LB 1070, LB 1090, LB 1104,