

January 15, 1973

SENATOR WHITNEY: Senator Barnett, what I thought you had in mind was whether legislative employees was still under the retirement program, it's my understanding they still are.

SENATOR BARNETT: Then if they resign or whenever they leave the employment of the state of Nebraska, they get their retirement back plus interest, as anybody else should, but does not at this present time.

SENATOR WHITNEY: Well this depends on how long they have been employees and the like. For example you have to be 30 years of age and have been employed for two years in order to take out a retirement program in the first place. Then if you quit during the first five years, you get nothing back, but it goes in to take care of past services, which the legislature voted. However, if you quit after five years, then you take, you can get a certain percentage, is that you can always get back the amount of money that you put in, that's my understanding. Incidentally we are having a work shop to, today noon for two hours on this very retirement program, and Tom Eastman our actuary of the legislature is going to be explaining all about the retire programs for any state employee in the state of Nebraska, and I'd welcome that you go there and listen to this and then we may have a better opinion as to what is going on.

SENATOR BARNETT: May I ask, Senator Whitney would you yield to another question? You made a statement that you had to be in the employment of the State of Nebraska for five years, before you could get any money back.

SENATOR WHITNEY: No, you, I think you, I'm not certain on this Senator Barnett, I'm certain that you get it back after five years, I'm not certain whether you get it back if it's before.

SENATOR BARNETT: My question was then, if that, if you don't know that for sure, then my question, was, did the Senators that were not here five years get their money back?

SENATOR WHITNEY: I don't know, I don't - Senator Syas do you know whether the State Senators who were here for less than five years get their money back?

SENATOR SYAS: Well I don't know, you see that's what made this whole thing so goofy, we did something evidently on the spur of the moment, we didn't consider the people that are no longer members of this legislature, and they had just as much interest in this as we did, but we ignored that, evidently what the fellows in here were thinking about was I want some money in my pocket, I'll take my share, they weren't considering what's gone ahead of them, I could name as you could, probably fifty people that are still living that are not, have an interest in this, that are not members of this body any more. We didn't consult them, they've got an interest in this thing. I think it is morally wrong, I think this was awful.

SPEAKER: Senator Proud, did you wish to be recognized?

CLERK: I have a motion on the desk.

SPEAKER: Let's read the motion here now.

CLERK: State Senator Retirement Motion - read.

SPEAKER: That's the motion before us.