

February 9, 1973

(Start Belt #2)

SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes Senator Whitney.

SENATOR WHITNEY: Mr. President, Vince which request is that? Vince, which request is that?

CLERK: It's request number 661.

SENATOR WHITNEY: The retirement committee as you know is a little different type of committee than other standing committees and the bills are supposed to go to the retirement committee first, and be evaluated, and the retirement committee met at night from 7:00 until about 10:30, we've met off hours, at noon until 2:00 several times, and we have three bills to introduce, these were given to the bill drafter prior to the twenty day period, but he did not have enough time to draft them, and I want to explain this bill just very briefly. As the law now stands there is no provision for a judge to receive any retirement benefits, other than an annuity based upon his final average salary, this bill will allow a judge to elect before retirement, among options that the public employees retirement board in it's judgement deems appropriate and will provide for survivorship benefits to the beneficiary who in some cases does not receive any such benefits in the event of a judges' death. Dependent upon a judges contributions to the retirement system, when he dies, his beneficiary may not receive any benefits. This bill will correct that situation, and as I understand it, it does not cost anything to put this in, it just simply gives more options to the judges and I move that this bill be introduced.

SPEAKER: Senator Whitney, I wonder if you would, the Chair would entertain a motion that the rules be suspended and that all three of these bills be taken up under that situation.

SENATOR WHITNEY: I move that the rules be suspended and all three of these bills be introduced in the legislature, I haven't explained the other two yet, but they are very similar bills which attempted to create greater uniformity among the retirement systems of the state of Nebraska. So I so move that all three of these be introduced then, together.

SPEAKER: Now with your motion you can go ahead and explain the other two if there is an explanation there, do you have an explanation? Just a second please, Senator Marvel did you wish to be recognized?

SENATOR MARVEL: I was supporting Senator Whitney as a member of the retirement committee to verify the fact that we have two professionals who analyzed the bill ahead of time as he indicated, and I think that these three bills have been thoroughly analyzed by the actuarial staff in the committee and I hope that the legislature will support Senator Whitney's motion.

SPEAKER: Senator Simpson.

SENATOR SIMPSON: Mr. President and members of the legislature, I don't know as I'm in disagreement with any of these bills, but I am in disagreement with voting on all three at the same time, it may take a little longer, but I think we would establish a bad precedent that a committee bringing in three or more bills and we would just automatically vote on all of them at one time and they might rise or fail because of the objections to one or more, so I think we should vote on them individually.

SPEAKER: Thank you, the Chair will accept that suggestion and we'll go back to the suspension of rules for each one of the bills, and you exception is well taken, and the Chair was only attempting to expedite the introduction of the three, fine and