

CLERK: 13 ayes, 21 nays, remainder not voting.

PRESIDENT: Motion is lost. Do we have other amendments now to LB 286?

CLERK: None, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: What is your pleasure regarding the bill? Clear the board. Senator Cavanaugh.

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: Mr. President, I move LB 286 as amended be advanced to E & R for engrossing.

PRESIDENT: Very good. Senator Burbach, do you want to debate the issue of whether the bill should be advanced or not? Question is, shall LB 286 be advanced to E & R for engrossing? All those in favor say aye, those opposed say no. Question is, shall 286 be advanced? All those in favor vote aye, all those opposed vote no. Clerk will record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 6 nays to advance.

PRESIDENT: 286 is advanced. Do we have any other business with bills on Select File?

CLERK: We have a motion to return LB 545 to Select File for a specific amendment. Signed, Senator Cavanaugh.

PRESIDENT: Senator Cavanaugh.

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: Mr. President, members of the body, 545 is the state pay plan bill and there are some difficulties in it which have come to light just the last day or so. I'd request it be returned for some amendments. I don't know...

PRESIDENT: You just need a motion to return it. Any further discussion? Senator Barnett.

SENATOR BARNETT: Mr. President, before I vote to return it I'd like to know what the amendments are going to be.

PRESIDENT: Senator Cavanaugh, do you care to respond?

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: Okay, Senator Barnett, the bill in its present form includes the Director of Personnel and the Merit System Office for the Merit System Agency shall deposit, it includes a merit system office. I'm going to delete the merit system plan and I'm going to delete that and add an amendment that they shall work together. Apparently the problem is that the Merit System would operate outside the pay plan and the desire is to have the Merit System operate as closely within the pay plan as possible, as I understand it. You may understand the whole problem better than I do.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion? Can't carry on a floor discussion back there because we can't hear you. Is there any further discussion of the motion? Senator Whitney. Motion is to return 545 to Select File for a specific amendment.

SENATOR WHITNEY: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, this bill was heard before the Retirement Committee and I have been in conference with Senator Cavanaugh and I feel as chairman of the Retirement Committee that what he's attempting to do is a desirable thing.

PRESIDENT: Senator Stahmer, do you wish to be heard on the issue?

SENATOR STAHMER: Can the Clerk read the amendment?