

very difficult to be realistic when it comes to providing the funds that are necessary to make those programs work. The City of Lincoln, the City of Omaha, the State of Nebraska, we all have various pension programs. Most of them today are not fiscally sound. I think that it is unfortunate that this time we come back in with one more program, ask for a major contribution from the state in excess of that from the employee, because I know what it will do, we all know what it will do, it will trigger another round of negotiation between all of the various employees and maybe deservedly so for equal kind of treatment. We have many fine state employees, some of them not with the University system, who are entitled, in my opinion, to some of the same considerations as we would grant the University employees. I'm not saying that they do not justify the request at this time but I think that we are asking for a contribution here which may be in excess of that, which we would make in other areas, I do not think we should do it at this time and I join Senator Murphy in asking that this bill not be returned.

SPEAKER MARVEL PRESIDING

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Goodrich and then Senator Kremer.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Mr. President, members of the body, I rise in support of the motion. I hate to oppose my good friend Senator Murphy and good friend Senator Schmit, but, I would like very much to see this particular bill reconsidered and the prime reason I would, not because the bill merits it, because I happen to think that it does, the fact for example that we can hold down the dollar appropriation if we bring this bill back and reconsider it. In other words, if you don't give the raises and the higher percentage of raises that the University asks for, you at least ought to give them something to work with the employees on in the form of increased fringe benefit package. However, that isn't really the prime reason that I even support the motion to bring this back or reconsider this particular bill. That is that when we really considered this particular bill we did not have a full team on hand to vote on the issue. We were short a large number of senators and I think that we ought to have a good chance of voting on this bill when we have got a full house here. I wholeheartedly urge you to reconsider the bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Kremer.

SENATOR KREMER: Mr. Speaker, real quickly. Senator Newell, will you answer a question for me please?