

March 17, 1980

LB 533

in at a later age in terms of parlaying a retirement system. I suspect the average age of judge appointments by the incumbent governor has been somewhere around 50 to 55 years of age. The ability to parlay those numbers and the 66 2/3 is based on an early entry into the program, and is one of the finest financial men in the business. I know Senator Murphy had his tongue in his cheek when he was talking about who was going to get what benefits, because we all know that he is knowledgeable in those areas. Senator Murphy has not presented the full case and I am sure it was an oversight because of time in terms of the issue at hand. I think this is a firm policy for the Legislature to express in terms of what the maximum pay-out would be, and I reemphasize for you we are talking about maximum pay-out. Every judge that retires will not retire at 66 2/3 percent of final four years of salary, and Senator Murphy knows that. He knows it very well. But I think the commitment needs to be established here and I agree with Senator Goodrich that it has to be the same for both categories of judges. We are in a difficult situation to provide the same level of retirement for all of our employees.

SENATOR CLARK: You have got about 45 seconds left.

SENATOR LEWIS: Well, I can use it. We are in the same situation with everybody that retires from state patrol to judges to state employees. They do not retire at the same rate. It depends on the year of entry level, and that is elementary to all of us, because we have seen the current out-pay of retirement systems and that is 42½ seconds and I yield the other three back to the Chair.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Lewis was closing. Senator Murphy, for what reason do you rise?

SENATOR MURPHY: Question of Senator Lewis on his closing statement, Mr. President.

SENATOR CLARK: Go ahead.

SENATOR MURPHY: Senator Lewis, as an old debate coach it is one of the qualifications of debate that if you are disadvantaged by your opponent you restate what he has said and in so doing misquote him. Is that right?

SENATOR LEWIS: That's a lousy question.

SENATOR CLARK: Lousy answer. Just so you will know what you are voting....

8505