

CLERK: 30 ayes, 12 nays Mr. President on the rule suspension.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is carried, the rules are suspended and the Chair recognizes Senator Murphy and then we will recognize Senator Schmit. Senator Murphy.

SENATOR MURPHY: About a week ago I circulated among you a reminder written not by any member of this body or even in the state but of the general result of what pensioning is doing to all governments in all states. Now we are not only engaging in another program of pensions, which according to our fiscal staff, has some rather serious portent for the state and for the City of Omaha, but we are going to impose upon the subdivisions of government another one of our superior experiences and intelligence. The home rule charter says that the city must match pensioning. I visited with those who were here the other day in support of it and I said, will you promise me that you will not be back to this body within the next five or ten years with a request for state funding to replace what the City of Omaha isn't able to do. They flatly answered, no. Now that should be some kind of a clue as to what we are doing not only to the City of Omaha but to this Legislature. I ask that this body not consider this bill and that we do in fact indefinitely postpone it. I move the adoption of that motion.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members of the Legislature. I think that it is time that we recognize that it is very easy for us all to propose programs and pension plans and many other ideas. But, there comes a day of reckoning. I agree with Senator Murphy, these things have to be paid for. I think that it is interesting to me the bill as proposed at the present time with the amendments that we have placed on it require that those individuals who benefit from the program will in fact pay for it. I do not know if the figures that I have are accurate or not, but as certain as I can tell, the people who benefit will pay. Now there is a little problem, as I understand, that the pension plan, and Senator Murphy can probably expound upon this, is not adequately funded. I did have an amendment that would take care of that and require that it be fully funded but that would take about, as nearly as I can tell, about a 3% sales tax. I think that it serves as a good reminder for all of us, and I believe in pension plans and I believe those individuals who work for the public are as much entitled to a pension plan as anyone else. I think at some time, and