

having 40 or 50 of them came back in would be a pretty clear indication that some teachers decided to come back in and take advantage of the higher benefit. Some cities and areas in particular have done this and it does cause a much larger unfunded liability situation because we are talking about not pennies, we are talking about thousands of dollars involved. If this should become widespread, if the discontent I have heard of from teachers calling and saying, well, if they can do it, why can't I do it, and many more teachers started to get back in under the old formula, we would have an unbelievable problem. So we have got to stop it now and we have got to be fair with these people and the amendment and the formula is fair. It says, you will get calculated under the new benefits for that time that you come in and come back into the system, but for the time you were under the old system, you will keep those old benefit levels because we are not going to take your whole benefit level and lift it up three or four times what it was. It just doesn't make sense to do that, unfortunately. I would like to do that. Those people aren't getting very good retirements but it is not the right thing to do. The E clause is on this bill and it is very important to have it on this bill with the committee amendment because we have got to have this in effect as soon as possible. These teachers are now back in. They are about to have a recalculation of the benefits, and if we don't pass this bill with the E clause, they will receive this much larger benefit. With the E clause, it will be calculated under the new formula and will save us a great deal of money. So that is why the E clause is on it and the new formula. It is the right thing to do. We don't stop these people from coming back in but we also don't give them a huge windfall as a result of it. And your support is very important to this bill because it is very important to all the state that we have this passed.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Harris, do you care to close on the committee amendments?

SENATOR HARRIS: Mr. President, I will close by simply moving the adoption of the amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR BEUTLER: The motion is the adoption of the committee amendments. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Voting aye, Pat.