

individual retirement, have bought an annuity plan for the retiree which will be fully funded and will take into consideration the 1 percent adjustment. But I am of the opinion that we need to profit from what we have learned about the last decade, and what we have learned from the last decade is the cost of living adjustments contained in social insurance programs and in private insurance programs have the effect, over time, of promoting inflation. It is probably better, in the end, for social insurance programs, as well as for private insurance programs, to simply provide flat dollar amounts without any upward or downward adjustment, that if upward or downward adjustments are to occur, particularly into a public funded program, that they occur only after a full debate as to what the upward adjustment would cost, and the funding thereof. So I intend to support Senator Beutler's amendment. I believe that LB 215 contains other valuable provisions that will be a benefit to the retirees in the Omaha school district. But at this juncture I don't think that I can bring myself to support passage of a law which would, in effect, put Nebraska in the position of allowing for annual upward adjustments, albeit not tied to cost of living but they are annual upward adjustments of the retirement benefit.

PRESIDENT: Senator Warner, do you wish to speak on the Beutler amendment to 215?

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, Senator Beutler, Chris, is this the same amendment that I...

PRESIDENT: It's the Beutler-Warner amendment, I believe.

SENATOR WARNER: Okay. Well, Mr. President, I rise to support the amendment. I'm sorry I was detained by a...well, I wasn't sorry to be detained by a group students, but I was sorry I was detained and wasn't able to be here. I have a very genuine concern. Once we start an adjustment in any single plan without fail it has happened to all. My only concern is that if you are going to do it for one plan then do it knowingly, that whatever the fiscal impact is for all of them collectively is what, in effect, you are spending. I do not know what for sure exactly what a comparable provision for every retirement system that we have, what, six of them at least that the state participates in, would be, but over time it has got to be a fairly substantial figure. Obviously if we do one the next