

SENATOR ABOUD: Mr. President, colleagues, I rise to touch on just a couple of points here quickly. When LB 432 was originally introduced, it was a bill that said that all county employees would have to be under the county employee system, under the county employee retirement system. Now originally when the idea of having county employees under a retirement system, it was a situation where they came into the Legislature and said we are not going to put any sort of requirements on the different counties to have a retirement system. This is going to be permissive. If the counties in Douglas County or Hall County or Box Butte County officials, those county commissioners get together and they say we want our county employees to be covered, have a retirement system, then we will have this retirement system. It is a strange parallel that we are seeing here today in an amendment being offered by Senator Withem. He is coming forward and saying that we are just going to have Sarpy County under this particular system and it is my fear in addition, as Senator Lundy so eloquently said, that we are going to have a system in which all the local law enforcement systems will have their own retirement system, and that might be fine. Then if the committee agrees to it and says that this is a good idea, and the entire Legislature agrees to it, then that's a great idea, we will get 25 votes and pass it on to the Governor and we will have it enacted into law. But when you short-circuit the system and say let's put this on Select File, bypass the committee, we are facing a similar situation to this actual bill itself, LB 432. I urge the rejection of this particular amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Beyer please.

SENATOR BEYER: Mr. Speaker and colleagues, Sarpy County is unique. Sarpy County is getting up with Lancaster and Douglas in far as the population. We are the fastest growing county in the state. So we have some special problems and these problems have to be addressed, and as Senator Withem said, it has been addressed by various other entities when they have wanted a specific thing. We have a little bit more of a problem in our area because of the fact that the officers can transfer across county lines from department to department awfully easy but I think that we have a number of officers who have stayed and these officers need to be rewarded. If we go by the fact of these numbers,