

body approve this amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Lundy, do you wish to speak on the amendment?

SENATOR LUNDY: Mr. President, relative to the amendment on LB 432, I wonder if the Chair would rule whether or not this is germane to the bill.

PRESIDENT: You'd do that to me, would you?

SENATOR LUNDY: I would do that to you, sir.

PRESIDENT: We will ask the parliamentarian to inform the Chair of the circumstances here. The point has been raised on the germaneness of the amendment offered by Senator Hartnett. Does any member wish to make a point on germaneness? Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Mr. President, members of the body, I am surprised by the question even as to germaneness. The bill deals with the county retirement...county employees retirement system. We are amending the way that county employees retirement system will operate. The bill mandates that all counties participate in it. We are talking about how one particular county's participation in that process will be amended. The bill deals with contribution rates. This amendment deals with contribution rates to the county employee retirement fund. We are not taking anybody out of that fund. We are not setting up a new system. We are just merely talking about how an individual county will react within that system. You know I understand concerns about tacking concepts that are unrelated onto bills here as we move into the final days. I understand how we have to guard against that. But, my gosh, I've never seen anything that is more germane than this particular amendment to the language of the bill in which we are dealing.

PRESIDENT: Is there another comment on germaneness? Senator Lundy.

SENATOR LUNDY: I think, Mr. President, that the...the reason I asked for this is I think this is adding something in that is not related to the bill itself. It is adding in a particular segment of employees in a particular segment of a county system. It seems to me like it is not germane to