

the issue that is contained in making a bill. LB 432 makes it mandatory that counties provide a retirement system. This bill, with the amendment in it, provides for handling the sheriff's department employees in a different manner than other employees. So it does change, somewhat, the total picture as you look at both issues.

PRESIDENT: Is there further comment? The Chair would rule, on the question of germaneness, that the amendment is germane. The bill refers to the County Retirement Act, and the amendment appears to be an internal operation under the specific amendment concerning speciality of one county or particular kinds of employees could have been in the original bill on this subject. The Chair rules that it is germane. Next on the speakers list is Senator Howard Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President, members, I rise to oppose the amendment because what is this year's proposal becomes next year's proposal for everybody. In other words, we are going to give the Sheriff's Department in Sarpy County special dispensation. Then we are going to have other counties coming in, next year, to say look what you did for Sarpy County, we want the same thing. So I would suggest to you you broaden it to cover the whole state, which would weaken the amendment, or just vote against it because at this point it is going to come back to haunt you. Hall County will be interested in lowering the population requirement to include them. It is one of those things that is progressive, once we do it for one group this year then all the other groups clamor for it next year.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Chris Abboud.

SENATOR ABOUD: Mr. President, colleagues, I rise in opposition to the amendment to LB 432. I feel that LB 432 is a bad bill. I feel that the amendment added to it makes the bill even worse. To refresh you, LB 432 is a bill that provides that all counties will come under a general retirement statute. Presently we have 34 counties that are under this retirement system. The local county boards have the discretion whether they choose to have their employees under this particular system. LB 432 provides that the remaining 57 counties will be forced into this retirement system. Now Senator Withem and Senator Hartnett have proposed an amendment on to LB 432 which is bad because, number one, my major problem with this particular amendment