

DeCamp makes are true. And if we don't have a public hearing to put these questions to a test, I suggest he bears the burden to prove that they are true to the body and all I heard was a fine speech. Now there are some interesting facts to keep in mind on early retirement. Right now we have over 11 percent of the population at 65 or above, but because of science, because of medicine we are looking within 20 years at a population that is over 20 percent made up of people over the age of 65. When Social Security was enacted there were 30 workers for every retiree. As a matter of fact the retirement age of 65 came about when people were living to an average life expectancy of 42, unlike what they are now. Then the World War II extremes came and we were looking at the fifties and sixties and it reduced down to about seven workers per retiree. We're looking now at about four workers per retiree and by the turn of the century we may be down to two workers per retiree and Senator DeCamp wants to put more people on the retirement status. What's the relationship between pension benefits and Social Security benefits, particularly with the new indexed Social Security benefits? What's the trade off? I don't know, I confess, but neither does this body and isn't it too soon to vote on an early retirement when we don't have the answer on that, when there hasn't been a public hearing and we haven't asked anybody about that question? One of the things that Senator DeCamp was talking about when he said, well you have to look at the whole picture, have to look at the whole picture and the picture that he chose to look at was the young employee versus the old employee. I'd suggest that the whole picture we look at is the panoply of retirement systems that we are responsible for and that with the adoption of this rule today on General File without a public hearing before the Retirement Committee, we will be setting ourselves up for the return engagement in the upcoming years for all the rest of those retirement systems of these principles, principles which have not been measured against the retirement systems principles and which we have not endorsed with the findings from a public hearing. I reject, as untimely, this amendment. It is possible that I can be persuaded that early retirement is good, but that should be a reasoned judgment applied across the board and that is not contained in this amendment. I oppose it and in the event it is successful, I'll oppose the bill.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Thank you. Senator Remmers, then Senator