

Abboud.

SENATOR REMMERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I rise to support the amendment. We've had this issue before us a year or two ago when we talked about the teacher retirement bill. I think we have a situation here where we have some teachers that are burned out and I don't care what the cost of training is, when a teacher has reached that point and no longer very effective in the classroom, after having taught under this amendment, the least I can see would be at least 34 years because I think starting about 22 years of age and to reach that magic number of 90 years or of 90, that magic number of 90, you would have had to have taught about 34 years. That's a long time to baby-sit in a classroom with 25, 30 children in the classroom. Now we have a lot of good teachers who are happy, who would teach till age 70 if we didn't have forced retirement, which we have in many cases. But for the teacher that is burned out and wants to get out, that teacher is not going to do the job in the classroom and the young teacher who has come out of college with the new training, we can't say it's always going to make a better teacher than the one that is burned out, but I'd say the odds are in favor of that and of course you would hire that new teacher at a much lower figure than the one that has been teaching for thirty some years. Now, the teacher that is not burned out is not going to retire. The teacher enjoys teaching, the good teacher is not going to take that early retirement because he is making good salary. By that time his salary is up there where it's respectable. He is building his Social Security, he is building his teacher's pension. If he likes teaching, he is not going to quit. But we have a lot of teachers out there that do get burned out and I think for the benefit of children the financial saving I think is there, but that is secondary as far as I am concerned. The benefit of the children, to give those teachers who have just simply had it, to give them a chance to get out and draw their retirement, I think is a very good way to go and I would urge you to support this amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Thank you. Senator Abboud, then Senator Pappas.

SENATOR ABBOUD: Mr. President, colleagues, we spent a lot of time discussing bill limitation the last few days and last week. Apparently it really wouldn't have made a whole