

SPEAKER NICHOL: The bill advances. Move on to LB 74, please.

CLERK: Mr. President, 74 was a bill introduced by Senator Pappas. (Read title.) The bill was read on January 10 of last year. It was referred to the Banking Committee, advanced to General File. I have no amendments to the bill.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Pappas, please.

SENATOR PAPPAS: Yes, Mr. Speaker. This is a take-off from a bill that we had several years ago where there is a certain group of state employees that aren't covered under the Social Security system, and in essence, what it does is lower the age that they can retain the state health insurance from 56 to 51. There was no opposition to the bill at the hearing last year and probably bigger than that, there has been a case filed against the State of Nebraska by a person that this would cover, that this, in essence, will put it in compliance with the contractual arrangements they had in preventing future lawsuits. It's not an early retirement bill. It's just an option, if they want to take it. It puts it in compliance and I ask for its passage.

SPEAKER NICHOL: I have no other speakers on the bill. Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Pappas, is this the bill that was vetoed a couple of years ago, similar? This is not the kind of a bill that the concern at one time was that you increase costs.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Pappas, we didn't hear your response.

SENATOR PAPPAS: No, it's similar to the bill. The bill I think Senator Warner is referring to is the one that passed three years ago and the Governor vetoed it because there was a substantial cost increase according to the actuaries for insurance companies. This bill has very few people it actually affects.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Were you finished, Senator Warner?

SENATOR WARNER: Yes.