

Legislature, this is a very simple bill. It is a housekeeping measure. It was discovered in going over the statutes that there was a possibility that someone who had been in the service previous to being a judge claiming some sort of benefit through the retirement system. In this bill is a technical change which clarifies that this military service, if it is going to be included in any way, this military service will be included in determining active service of a judge only if the service commenced while the judge was holding the office of judge. And what this simply says is that if there is basically a national reason for this person to go into the service for whatever reason it might be, and most likely a war, then he would get some count on his retirement possibly. It could be a savings for the state in the future. I would move that this bill be advanced. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Higgins, please.

SENATOR HIGGINS: A question of Senator Harris, please.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Harris.

SENATOR HARRIS: Yes.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Senator Harris, I notice that the Public Employees Retirement Board appeared in a neutral position at the hearing. Could you tell me what the Public Employees Retirement Board had to say.

SENATOR HARRIS: Well, I would hate to paraphrase if they were neutral, as you know sometimes...I can't remember exactly what they said but as you know sometimes they come before us and just say we are neutral on this. I don't remember what they said. I would hate to put any words in anyone's mouth on that particular (inaudible).

SENATOR HIGGINS: Is there...thank you, Senator Harris. Is there anyone else here from the Retirement Committee that could answer the question as to how the Public Employees stood on this? I know when I have been before or served on committees, many times people will get up and say we are neutral, and by the time they get through, you find out they are really for it or they are really against it but for some reason or another they like to say they are neutral, and that is why I am interested in what the Public Employees