

We all know that it is a very realistic situation out there that we are not going to be able to help our state employees all across the board this year with some kind of salary adjustment. I say that this is one thing that you can give to the long-time employees of the State of Nebraska, a consideration. I remind you that Nebraska is the only state that does not do something, that does not do anything to address this problem. I don't know how you in good conscience can say to your long-time state employees, we will not even allow you the opportunity to pick up our cost and your cost. Now, Senator Abboud, and I appreciate his position, has said that we are going to allow this to one small group. The State Patrol is one small group and they already have it. The teachers umbrella policy, their umbrella policy which is separate from the state's policy, has this option in it and it has not increased the cost of that policy because of abuse or that many people using it. I would suggest to you that this is the time to address this question and especially for this session. This is the time to adopt this. Senator Pappas has the opportunity to come back and put his bill in the proper form with with the adoption of this so I don't feel that I am ruining his concept. I think we are broadening the concept and we are taking it to a group of people that we owe something to and I would urge your adoption of this amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Morehead was closing on her amendment. The question is the adoption of the Morehead amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Senator Morehead. Senator Pappas.

SENATOR MOREHEAD: How many are excused, Mr. President?

SPEAKER NICHOL: Two.

SENATOR MOREHEAD: I would just ask for a record vote, please.

SPEAKER NICHOL: All right. Have you all voted that care to? A record vote has been asked for. Mr. Clerk, record.

CLERK: (Read record vote as found on pages 573-74 of the Legislative Journal.) 13 ayes, 25 nays, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The motion fails. Do you have any other motions on the bill?