

March 8, 1976

Senator Cavanaugh, I got lost on the telephone back here. I haven't had a chance to go over this. All you're really doing is putting the doctors in, in the same situation, and inserting doctors along with hospitals. Is that correct with 809 as it is now?

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: Yes, basically that's what we're doing, yes.

SENATOR MILLS: I want to know more then basically then if you're making some drastic changes. I thought that was basically.... Are you making a drastic change from 809?

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: No. Senator DeCamp's bill, I keep forgetting the number ... 967 ... 868? LB 968 was originally drafted to model or reflect LB 809. They could have been written together in the beginning, I suppose, but at the time 809 was prepared there was not the thought, or I did not have the thought of including the doctors. That was Senator DeCamp's subsequent idea after reading LB 809. He modeled his legislation after 809. Now we are simply attempting to combine them and provide the system, make the same system available to hospitals and physicians.

SENATOR MILLS: OK, thank you Senator Cavanaugh.

I have spoken with several doctors that I know concerning the issue of malpractice and insurance related to it. They have informed me that they are anxious for me to vote for LB 809 as it affects the hospitals. I also asked them how they would like to be included in 809. They were, the ones that I spoke to, were agreeable to be included in 809. Anything to try to alleviate the situation as we find it or may find it in the future.

I rise to support Senator DeCamp's amendment and ask that you would also.

SENATOR SIMPSON: Senator Kremer.

SENATOR KREMER: Mr. Chairman, I have a question of Senator DeCamp to make sure that I understand. Are you in here? Senator DeCamp, the original bill, 809, provides that ... it would allow three or more hospitals to participate in forming a mutual association for liability insurance. Is this right?

SENATOR DeCAMP: That was Senator Cavanaugh's original bill, yes.

SENATOR KREMER: Yes, and it remains exactly like that, but your amendment....

SENATOR DeCAMP: Well it....

SENATOR KREMER: ... provides for the same kind of operation on the part of physicians or doctors and it would be a separate association, it would not be two doctors in one hospital, for example, or....