

March 27, 1987

LB 203, 608

SENATOR KORSHOJ: Well, it might be dumb, but the attorney said very necessary and, you know, I might add, after the hearing on it, well, I had a few questions so I asked Ashford and Chambers about it and they said it was very important, and that's good enough for me. So don't trust me, trust Chambers and Ashford. I move we advance it.

PRESIDENT: The question is the advancement of the bill. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Senator Korshoj, maybe you better go get Senator Chambers or...to vote for your bill. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of 608.

PRESIDENT: The bill is advanced. LB 203, please.

CLERK: Mr. President, 203 by Senator Wesely. (Title read.) Introduced on January 13, referred to Banking, advanced to General File. I have no amendments to the bill.

PRESIDENT: Senator Wesely, please.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. President, members. Real briefly, LB 203 is a bill that deals with an obsolete provision dealing with a federal act that was since repealed that mandated that we have to put this in state law back about 10 years ago. What it deals with is these HMOs at a certain period are supposed to open up to anybody who wants to come into them off the street. It doesn't deal with open enrollment in terms of any contracts within labor agreements like you would normally find like if you're in a company and they have an insurance contract that on one point in the year you have an open enrollment. This doesn't affect that. This is open enrollment for anybody who wants to come in off the street and get the coverage and that can lead to what is called adverse selection, people that can't get coverage anywhere else would come in and the HMOs would be harmed irreparably in some cases by a result of that change. So the Insurance Department and the HMOs have come in and said we can't live with this and it is no longer required and have asked that the statutes be repealed that require that. So I'd ask for advancement of the bill.

PRESIDENT: Senator Hall, please.

SENATOR HALL: Mr. President and members a question of Senator