

business is consideration of Enrollment and Review amendments.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Wesely, would you like to make a motion on the E & R amendments?

SENATOR WESELY: Yeah, I move the E & R amendments.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Wesely. You've heard the motion to adopt the E & R amendments. All those in favor please say aye. Opposed nay. The E & R amendments are adopted.

CLERK: Madam President, Senator Wesely would move to amend. Senator, first of all, you had an amendment, 1901, that I understand you want to withdraw.

SENATOR WESELY: Right.

CLERK: Madam President, Senator Wesely would move to amend with AM1988. (AM1988 filed in the Clerk's office.)

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Madam President, and members of the body, I want to begin by thanking Senator Baack for the opportunity to address the issues embodied in this amendment which has been distributed on your desks. It's about a 27-page amendment that takes the current context of the bill out and inserts a series of health insurance related issues that we've been dealing with in the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee to try to address some of the concerns that our state has expressed on health insurance. The context of the original bill, LB 419, which was introduced by Senator Schellpeper and myself, are no longer necessary. They have been...the issue has been handled outside of that bill so it is available for other issues. And, in discussing that with Senator Landis, we came to the conclusion that there is a need to address the issues embodied in this amendment. Let me run through those. First, the issue of CHIP, the Comprehensive Health Insurance Pool Act. We did adopt yesterday an amendment to the budget bill that will provide for a study by the insurance department of the CHIP program. That provision came from this amendment and is included in this amendment. The CHIP program, as you recall, is now serving three thousand some individuals in this state who cannot otherwise receive health insurance benefits as the result of a preexisting condition. They are able to participate in