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April 27, 2005 LB 117

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. (Visitors introduced.) Senator Bourne, would you like to give us a review on the contents of LB 117 and the committee amendments as well?

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you, Mr. President, members. We're discussing the committee amendments which Senator Chambers has divided, and this component harmonizes the penalties between what's considered the most significant drugs, heroin, cocaine, and methamphetamine, and it also limits the amount that an individual...the amount of pseudoephedrine-based drugs that a person can purchase in a 24-hour period to 1,440 milligrams. That's the division that we're working on now, Mr. President. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Mr. Clerk, for a first motion.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Beutler would move to amend this component of the committee amendments with FA...well, it was actually AM1316. (Legislative Journal page 1302.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Beutler, you're recognized to open on AM1316 to the first component of divided committee amendments to LB 117.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature, as I became aware of this bill, one of the first things I did was to go back and have my staff pull the meth-related statutes and try to figure out what we've done and what we haven't done, as opposed to what we've done or haven't done with other drugs like cocaine and marijuana and heroin. And the fact of the matter is, we've covered most of the bases on methamphetamine, in the sense that we've gone back--and Senator Bourne has done a good job of going back with the committee and being sure that all of those tools that we characteristically use to fight a drug problem are being brought into play, and most of them have already been brought into play with respect to the methamphetamine problem. There was one area that involved possession that I wanted to bring forth, and I told Senator Bourne I'd bring it forth. And I'm bringing it forth to test the validity of this kind of provision, because I think,