February 26, 1981

Cross plans cover abortion under their basic contract. However, various limitations make coverage less than universal. These include requiring family coverage, requiring that the contract already have maternity benefits, and providing coverage only where legal. Rider, 42 Blue Cross plans provide coverage under a rider as well as under the basic plan. The 8 plans that do not cover abortion in their basic plan have abortion coverage available under a rider only or under a rider in conjunction with major medical coverage. In one plan a rider is available to eliminate coverage of elective abortion." So I don't see any need for this. There is avail-

able to anyone a rider where they can pay it with their public funds. I don't think that we can force the insurance companies to cover it when Blue Cross already does and I am sure there are other insurance companies that do also.

SENATOR CLARK: The time is up on this bill at the present time. - I suppose the Speaker will bring it up later. I haven't any idea. We will now to to motion #6. Senator Chambers.