

seasonal employer is going to be asked to put in more dollars. So if you believe in use taxes, if you understand how insurance works, and this is a form of insurance, then it seems to me that the Maresh amendment should be adopted and I urge the body's adoption of the Maresh amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Rumery.

SENATOR RUMERY: Mr. President, members of the Legislature I would like to ask Senator Maresh a few questions, if I might.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Maresh, do you yield?

SENATOR MARESH: Yes, Senator Rumery.

SENATOR RUMERY: Senator does the white copy now which came in as an amendment to 394, does that actually become the bill now?

SENATOR MARESH: Yes, Senator Rumery. We took parts of various bills, 201 and 337 and 394 and made one bill out of those bills. So, they are all in this heavy copy and then the lighter copy is an amendment to the white copy. That has to do with the phasing in gradually of the solvency rate.

SENATOR RUMERY: Thank you. In the first section of the amendment that you handed out this morning, the one labelled E, the Labor Department estimates that the 112.5% increase in the base rates will be needed. Has this been verified by you or members of the committee?

SENATOR MARESH: No, I think those figures were given by Department of Labor and they don't seem to support the bill. They have been working against the amendments even against LB 394 from the beginning so I think they are stretching the point a bit by saying that it would be that much. I think with the reduction in payments, because the 50%, there will be some saving there so it shouldn't....I don't think they took that into account either.

SENATOR RUMERY: Where do these other estimates come from that range from 40-200% increase?

SENATOR MARESH: Senator Goodrich, I think he got that from the Department of Labor. Let Senator Goodrich answer where he got those figures.