

education credits other than through Big I or independent agent seminars. I don't see it as nearly as restrictive, nearly as compulsory, nearly as mandatory as all the check-off legislation we have passed this last eight years such as corn and soybean and what have you. So I think the Banking Committee has come forth with...Banking and Insurance Committee has come forth with a basic good package of legislation. I don't think it is going to put anybody out of business that anybody that has a sincere desire to be in and serve the public and I personally strongly urge that this bill be moved along to Select File.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I think I know the answer, Senator Landis, but I would like to have it for the record. Insurance companies provide schooling for their own agents and as I understand the bill for the most part these programs, educational questions by insurance companies, would be approved and it would not be necessary for the state to set up a school. Is that correct so far?

SENATOR LANDIS: That is true. The Department of Insurance has the authority to see if those courses offered by an insurance company satisfy the basic requirements. If they do, the completion of those courses, those privately sponsored courses would suffice.

SENATOR NICHOL: Would the state automatically set up a school to handle those who do not attend school provided by insurance companies?

SENATOR LANDIS: No, I don't foresee the Insurance Department getting into the business of sponsoring seminars. There are privately sponsored seminars that are open to independent agents. There are correspondence courses which are available to agents, and there are courses that are sponsored by private companies which are open to agents.

SENATOR NICHOL: What if Senator Higgins would not attend one of those or her companies didn't provide educational courses? Would the state then provide a course for her to study or an examination for her to pass?

SENATOR LANDIS: The state would not provide its own courses. The Insurance Department is not going to go out teaching insurance classes. They are available through the professional organizations. They are available through correspondence schools so that the burden is on the individual