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LB 378

SENATOR CULLAN: Number one, it is a construction index, cost of construction. Number two, I don't know what the current rate of inflation in the construction industry has been or what that effect would be.

SENATOR FOWLER: And the third question was the delegation of legislative authority to a....it's a federal index?

SENATOR CULLAN: It is a federal index but we do this similar indexing in several other areas and so I do not personally see a delegation or a constitutional problem.

SENATOR FOWLER: Have you checked with the Attorney General on that particular delegation?

SENATOR CULLAN: No, I haven't but I would be happy to before the bill reaches Select File.

SENATOR FOWLER: Okay, thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Senator Cullan, a question, please.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Cullan, will you yield?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Can you anticipate, Senator Cullan, what kind of cost saving you anticipate from the adoption of this amendment?

SENATOR CULLAN: I guess I don't understand your question, Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well, the question is very simple. If you are willing to lower the level down to \$500,000, do you believe that will be some how or other cost effective to the consumer, the person that pays the bill?

SENATOR CULLAN: Not really. I think you can establish any different level for thresholds and I think \$500,000 which was suitable to Senator Marsh seemed reasonable to me. I think it could be \$500,000 and not have any adverse effect on consumers either. If it gets too low, I think we will have the Department of Health...it will be cost ineffective because you will have the Department of Health reviewing too many proposals.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Okay, thank you. I just want to point out if I could, I believe Senator Cullan has indicated it is