

suggest we don't kill the bill and would enlighten the body that if the bill stays alive we now have an amendment that has been agreed upon by the insurance commissioner, by Senator Remmers, by Senator Dworak as I understand, everybody that really has an interest in the bill. I think Senator Barrett is in agreement with it, the Blue Cross-Blue Shield, the various multitudes of different insurance interests that settles the continuing education program in a way that is satisfactory to them all and as I say, I would recommend that you don't kill it, use your own good judgment on it. I will offer the amendment if the bill survives and I hope it will, but I would offer this little bit of rebuttal I guess to Senator Sieck's very well intentioned kill motion and the rebuttal is something like this. His main example is the Oregon experience where thousands of people lost their licenses once they had to go to continuing education. However, an analysis and a check of those that lost their licenses showed very clearly that they should have lost them because most of them had not been in business, had not done anything for fifteen, twenty years. They just hadn't even been selling insurance and the license was kind of a lifetime deal. They didn't even go to the continuing education. They didn't care about it. Additionally the most interesting thing that came out of the Oregon experience was that a very significant percentage of those that lost their licenses were already dead. They had been dead quite a while. So they had very minimal needs for their license to sell insurance, what with their apparent condition of being dead.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I oppose the kill motion to LB 274. I was in committee and heard this bill. This bill is a consumers' bill. It is for consumers and their protection ultimately that we support LB 274. It is not an economic weapon for some companies to wield against others. This isn't for the purpose of driving people out of business. It lays down a requirement that says if you're interested in selling these kinds of insurance in the competitive marketplace, be prepared to study up and know your business. Be prepared to enter into the marketplace and to sell to the consumer knowing your product, being able to answer the question that they might have, being familiar with the state of the law in this area. Now the argument that we are hearing today as opposed to what we heard the last time around is, this isn't comprehensive enough, it doesn't cover enough people, and if it is good for some it ought to be good for all. There is a character in Greek mythology called Procrustes. Procrustes was a bandit who used to steal people on roads