

in the hospital area. I think that that is absolutely wrong and the present certificate of need law, even as amended by Senator Cullan, is going to encourage additional construction that I think many times is unnecessary rather than limit it. I would ask you adopt my amendment.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Cullan.

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President, I would like to challenge the germaneness of the Schmit amendments. So far as I can tell, and it is difficult to tell with a twenty-two page amendment that I've only seen a couple seconds ago, but so far as I can tell Senator Schmit's amendments deal with the complicated subject of insurance. They deal with the open meetings law. They deal with uniform reporting. They deal with certificate of need process and they deal with financial data and other information. So far as I can tell specifically, at least as far as the insurance provisions and the open meetings law provisions are concerned, I believe that they are clearly not germane. They have nothing to do with certificate of need. Insurance is far afield from health care in this particular area so I would ask the Chair rule that Senator Schmit's amendments to LB 378 are not germane.

PRESIDENT: I have reviewed the amendments. Senator Schmit, a question of you. Did you hear Senator Cullan referring to insurance matters? What does your proposed amendment do with regard to insurance? I can't find any amendment to Chapter 44 which is insurance. What are you referring to by way of insurance?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, on page 19 of the amendment deals with the provisions of providing health care insurance and it does include the options that ought to be made available, require that insurance companies make some options available.

PRESIDENT: Wouldn't that go into Chapter 44 then?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well, Senator...pardon me, Mr. Speaker, I reverted back to your original status.

PRESIDENT: Oh, that's all right. Go right ahead. We won't worry about that. My feeling is that it is possible that part of this is not germane if it does refer to insurance matters. Senator Cullan, for your information the reference to open meetings law I consider to be germane because all, if there is a proper reference in Chapter 71 and it all goes to 71, a reference to the open meetings law would be correct