

SENATOR LANDIS: When I push my button that means I want to talk, and that's how come I done that.

PRESIDENT: Oh, pardon me. Senator Landis, would you go before Senator Kristensen, please?

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, I want to tell you why I support the Haberman amendment. There is two issues here, and Senator Hartnett is quite right, we did have a bill that he brought to us on abstractors, which is a somewhat related area, and there has been some professional jealousy between the attorneys and the abstractors, and we reported the bill out of committee, as I recall, to the floor. Land title agents serve a different function and it is a more difficult legal analysis that they do than an abstractor does. Both abstractors and land title agents tell me that this business is more complex. The reason that this amendment was changed in the first place, the reason the task force suggested it dropping from six to three of hours was because the Department of Insurance had received a number of complaints from throughout the state by agents who said, we could not get relevant coursework by the time we needed to renew. It proved to be very difficult for us to find a form or a format for us to take continuing education. The department was weary of dealing with complaints they had no method of response for. They agreed with the task force to drop the number of continuing education hours from six to three in '92. Since that time, the Land Title Association has upped by two their commitment either to personally or through underwriting an assistance of another group see to it that there are six hour continuing education classes around the state in a year's time. Basically, it will be at least on a quarterly basis, which because these are two-year renewal types will give every agent at least eight opportunities to get continuing education. That is satisfactory to the department now. They have removed their objections. The change from six to three was their idea to begin with. They agree with this amendment. I endorse it and Senator Haberman endorses it. It seems to me to be a reasonable accommodation because we had a number of complaints and now I think we have an adequate remedy for those complaints. I urge the adoption of this amendment.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Kristensen, please.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President and members.