

allow them, and I think some of them even now are in practice using a person other than one of the board members as treasurer. This would basically put in statute the ability for them to do that and do it with statutory authority.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, so the serious point that I want to get to, and I think you've touched on it, is that this is not an honorary position we're talking about. It has actual duties and responsibilities that requires a certain amount of expertise and a person who might be voted to the board may not necessarily have what it takes to discharge this job properly. Is that correct?

SENATOR HALL: That is correct.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Any closing, Senator Hall? If not, the question is the advancement of the bill. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of LB 1013.

PRESIDENT: The bill advances. LB 983, please.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 983 was a bill introduced by the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee and signed by its members. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 4 of this year, referred to Banking Committee, advanced to General File. I have no amendments to the bill.

PRESIDENT: Senator Landis, please.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, present at the hearing on 983 were Bill McCartney, the Director of Department of Insurance who brought us this measure as a department bill and John Humpal, Blue Cross-Blue Shield representative, both of which were proponents. We passed some changes to our Medicare Supplement Insurance Act last year as part of LB 92, but they were premised on the existence of a federal line of authority with respect to the Catastrophic Health Insurance Act that was at the time destined for federal law status. Since that time the Catastrophic Health Act has been repealed and since there were some internal references we