

detail, either Senator Wesely or Senator Landis, what that's all about and whether there are any additional costs for small employers either dictated or implied or possible or, you know, what does that...what happens under this provision?

SENATOR WESELY: Oh, I would be happy to answer your question, Senator Beutler. It's just the opposite impact. The small employer will save money under this proposal. It will allow for less of the volatility and rate increases on premiums for health insurance for small employers and the regulation, there will be no regulatory impact on the small employer but further oversight regulation by the insurance department over the insurance companies with small group plans. So...and the insurance industry supports that. They know that there's a problem here and they've agreed to this. It's a model act and they are in support of it.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, so there's no increased cost or regulatory red tape for the small business person under this?

SENATOR WESELY: In fact, no, the whole intent is to lower their health insurance premium cost for that small plan.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Madam President, and members, if Senator Wesely would respond to a question.

SENATOR WESELY: Sure.

SENATOR HALL: Don, these are...and I thought I heard Senator Landis say this but these are the issues that were before the committee that were...

SENATOR WESELY: Oh, right.

SENATOR HALL: ...passed out and there is no change in them in terms of their content as we dealt with them as the Banking Committee?

SENATOR WESELY: No. We've taken the bills as they came out of committee but we didn't take all of them, like that LB 835 bill we worked on, we just took a couple of pieces that were