

because we thought that a violation of this kind of a promise of confidentiality was roughly the same kind of promise of confidentiality when you have an open meetings...I'm sorry, an open records law violation, so that if there's a willful or knowing violation, it is a Class III misdemeanor. Lastly, we indicated with respect to schools, in an attempt to respond to our critics, that school employees, until 1999, will have portability from one plan to another plan so long as the two employers, the old school district and the new school district, are doing business with the same master plan or insurance company, if you will. Now let me explain those terms for you. Portability means I leave one plan; I go to another plan; I have no waiting period, no disqualifications for preexisting conditions. That's what portability means. In this situation, if School District A has their program with Mutual of Omaha and School District B has their program with Mutual of Omaha and a teacher leaves the first school district and goes to work for the second school district, so long as their reinsurer is the same, it is the obligation of those school boards, until 1994, to provide portability in their plans allowing the teacher to come into District B without a waiting period and with no concern for preexisting conditions. Why? Because out there now is a large blanket policy that most schools have and that policy in Blue Cross/Blue Shield allows for portability. If a teacher goes from District A to District B, in most of the districts in this state they will have portability. This gives us a period of time into which conditions may be changing that we will have a snapshot of that kind of phenomenon. It's not statutorily guaranteed. It's simply contractually guaranteed, but we're trying to keep people in much the same situation that they find themselves now and that's why this amendment is offered in good faith, to make sure that there's some maintenance of the status quo with respect to the portability of teachers under the passage of LB 167. I would urge the adoption of the amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Landis. Is there anyone who wishes to speak to the Landis amendment? Seeing none, we will vote on the amendment. All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Have you all voted? Have you all voted? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Madam President, on adoption of Senator Landis's amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: The amendment is adopted.