

person or the company. It was John's concern, and I agreed with him, that we needed to find a mechanism that would reflect the same type of penalty that currently exists for delinquencies in the weekly compensation payments. After about two weeks of work with...in close cooperation with the Workers' Compensation Court in order to ensure that the intent that Senator Lindsay had and the functioning of the court would work together, this is the agreed to amendment. I believe that it will serve the injured parties well and that they should not be harassed for the collection of medical bills that are not their responsibility. The attorneys for the claimants will have the ability to bring those neglected claims into court and receive an order that they be paid and then the penalty then is the attorney's fee that would be allowed by the court, it's not set by law, this is allowed by the court in each and every case based upon the court's view as to the complexity in the amount of work that that attorney had to do on that particular claim. I think it's a good amendment and will strengthen the operation of the Workers' Compensation Court as LB 360 has outlined it to change. So with that I would encourage the adoption of the Lindsay-Coordsen amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Coordsen. Senator Robinson.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Mr. President, members of the body, I have a question for Senator Lindsay.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Lindsay, would you respond, please.

SENATOR ROBINSON: How do you bring pressure on the insurance companies? As I hear you explain this, they're the ones that are not paying the money to the people that the lawyers represent.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Right.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Now, in this process, how do you bring them to the table or is it costing them anything as far as this amendment goes? I guess that's the thing that I can't figure out.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Yes. If they don't make payments on a timely basis and the claimant has to go to court, go back to work comp court to get those payments made, then the insurance company would face having to pay attorneys' fees.