

SPEAKER WITHEM: Next item.

CLERK: Senator Beutler would move to amend.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Withem, I'd withdraw the amendment.

SPEAKER WITHEM: It is withdrawn. Next item.

CLERK: Senator Schimek, AM1230. (Found on page 1317 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, thank you. Mr. President, members of the body, this is AM1230, and the Journal page is up there, 1317, but you will actually find an explanation of it on your desk, notes to LB 68, and there is two provisions that are in this; one is that provides that any self-funded employee benefit plan to the extent not preempted by federal law, in other words, not covered by ERISA, shall include coverage for screening mammography, and the second part of the amendment provides that this section or this bill doesn't apply, if the covered individuals are provided an ongoing screening mammography program which, at minimum, meets the requirements of this section as a separate benefit. And the reason that we are bringing this to you was because the City of Omaha came to us and told us about the program that they had. Now first I was reluctant to listen because you hate to open the door on anything, but as it turns out, Omaha actually has a very excellent program that is separate from their main health benefit plan, and what it is is it provides exactly the same provisions that are in this bill, the screening mammography every other year from 40 to 50, and every year after age 50. The only thing they are not providing and they will have to do is that they are not providing that baseline mammography at age...between age 35 and 40. But it costs them, for those who wish to participate in the program, it costs them \$5 a person for the mammography, and it is probably a better deal than they can get through their insurance program, and the reason they brought it to us is because this is something that they have already...they have already worked out in their negotiations and it would mean going back to negotiations again. And as long as they are providing what we are asking here, I don't have a