

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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Insurance. Risk management pools and self-insureds say something like, well, they have two objections. One, we don't want to have a different regulator than insurance 'cause we don't want to have one result under the Department of Insurance and one result under the court for what might be identical factual patterns. There's a third thing that self-insureds say and that is, we don't owe our employees an Unfair Claims Practices Act. They don't deserve it. We don't want to give it. It's too difficult for us to do. It's too vague. Don't make us have an Unfair Claims Practices Act. Those three arguments have been heard. The committee has reported out the bill. I'm going to ask for its advancement. I will tell you this, that on Friday at one o'clock the Department of Insurance, the Workers' Comp Court, self-insured and the insurance companies will gather in my office and we'll see if there's a way to lessen some of the controversy in 331. There may be some things that we could move around or...or adjust the authority to that would assuage some of the controversy. At this point, I think all parties agree that the bill can move to General (sic) File without the necessary fighting at this stage to see whether or not there's a way that we can work this out. I will tell everybody right now that the only unconscionable point of view I heard in the committee was that the employees of self-insureds do not and should not have access to an Unfair Claims Practices Act. That was an unconscionable position in my estimation and that's not up for grabs in the 331 debate. There should be, to every worker, the same...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...set of promises that the insurance that they have is going to be treated like every other kind of insurance and that is that the policyholder, that the beneficiaries are treated cons...with respect to this body of rules that applies across the board in every other form of insurance. It needs to apply in workers comp. Those are the things that are in 331. There will be a meeting on Friday. We'll do our best to lessen the controversy. There is controversy in the area. On the other hand, there is a darn good reason for everything that's in here and, until I'm shown differently, I intend to keep with the green copy of the bill. However, I'm a reasonable man and I would consider options suggested by those who would like to have