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LB 849

of the questions and reanswer those again, Senator Hartnett helped there. But we have to keep records, as EMTs and firemen now. We keep training logs for the firemen, we have to meet training requirements. EMTs, we have annual training; we have to have 30 hours of training each 3 years, and we actually keep a log, so it's not going to be a problem of certifying who's an eligible recipient of this. We have to have Certificate of Competency cards, our annual, on a three-year rotation basis, I believe it's three years. And anybody who has a Certificate of Competency card has to continue education and so on. So it's not going to be a problem, as far as I can tell, of administering it, who's going to qualify at all. So, with that, I will yield the rest of my time back to the Chair. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Baker. Senator Engel, on the Hartnett amendment to LB 849.

SENATOR ENGEL: Mr. Chairman, members of the body, I rise mainly in support of the bill and, of course, the amendment. I cannot say enough in praise for our volunteer firemen across the state of Nebraska. I used to be a volunteer fireman, myself, in South Sioux City. And the time...the time and effort that they put in, all the training, the time they get up, during the night, to go on EMT calls, fire calls, and in our community, Senator Vrtiska, as in yours, many of those cannot be there during the day, but they are there during the night hours. And I think they should get double points for those. Every time I would wake up, in the middle of the night, to go on an EMT call, I would ask my wife, now what do I do first? Because I never had to give CPR, never wanted to, to be honest with you. But I was never sure. But I think they should get extra points for those. That's probably something they'll figure out themselves. But the thing is that the time they do take away from the family, and then the community, as far as the \$100 a year they're going to be putting into that, most communities realize how many dollars per year they save in tax dollars because they do have a volunteer fire department and volunteer ambulances and so forth. So, to me, it's...it's a very, very small amount that they would be sacrificing to help give a small incentive, a very small incentive to keep these dedicated people on the job. I yield the rest of my time.