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LB 863

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Schrock. For discussion on the Schrock amendment, Senator Hilgert.

SENATOR HILGERT: Thank you, Mr. President, members. Some comments about the concept itself. Senator Cudaback, you are 100 percent right, and those were my concerns as well. Senator Schrock, I see some language in here, it says, while the act establishes specific requirements for performing lead-based paint activities should they be undertaken, nothing in this act requires that the owner or occupant undertake any particular lead-based paint activity. And also I see some encouraging language that says, abatement does not include renovation, remodeling, landscaping or other activities when such activities are not designed to permanently eliminate lead-based paint hazards, but are instead designed to repair, restore, or remodel a structure or dwelling. And the specter that I was concerned about you're certainly well aware of is that I represent an older part of Omaha. There's an assumption that structures prior to 1978 or 70...78 have lead-based paint in them. My concern was that the Sunday afternoon remodeler or homeowner, or the gentleman that wants to help the elderly woman in the parish do some light remodeling would be hamstrung, constrained and expenses skyrocketing out of their good efforts. And my question to you, Senator Schrock, do you believe that this language in your AM1724, and, of course, your AM1799, your amendment assures that this specter will not happen, and it will not apply to those people who are weekend remodelers as well as people who are helping others who aren't necessarily in that household?

SENATOR SCHROCK: Senator Hilgert, you are correct, it does not mandate anything, it just assists us in lead-ba...lead-based paint cleanup, and it helps us in the certification of those people who are involved in it. But I would reiterate again, it does not mandate any cleanup, but it is us...but we are passing this bill so that we can access federal funds. As you know, lead is a serious problem, and it's especially serious for youth. And we know from past experiences and from testing that it gets in the bloodstream, especially in our children, and it does cause problems. Lead is not something we want in the bloodstream of our children, that's why we've changed gasoline. So...and there is a problem in Omaha, as there is in other