

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office

February 11, 2000 LB 922

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Cudaback, please, to speak to the committee amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: I'll give my time to Senator Chambers, if he needs it, to continue his story. (Laughter)

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Cudaback.

SENATOR COORDSEN: We're going to hear the end of this story, no matter what, aren't we.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. So Bartek was very, very distressed and he told death, I helped you across that stream when nobody would help you. And death said, that is right. He said, you've got to spare my mother. And death said, no. He said, with all of the people that you can harvest anywhere in the world, you can let my mother live. Death said, impossible. So Bartek thought, and he thought, and thought some more. And he said, you meant it when you said if you're standing at the head of the bed the person will die. Death said, that is true. And if you're at the foot of the person, that person will live. Death said, true. Bartek said, you've always kept your word, so I have no reason to think that you will not keep it in this case. Death said, that is right, and folded her hands. Bartek scooped up his mother and whirled her around before anything could be done, and death was then standing at the feet of his mother. And Bartek said...death said, you tricked me this time, you defeated me. Bartek said, but I will promise you that the next patient I have I'll give to you. So time passed, his mother got well and they lived several more years. Bartek was walking down the path again, and he saw this old person sitting under the tree with the bell. And he asked her, what are you doing here? You're usually at the head or the foot of a bed. She said, I have business here. And so she started ringing the bell. And he said, what are you ringing the bell for? She said, that's the signal to people who are going to die, so that they'll have time to get straight anything they choose to get straight. And she said, I want you to go for a walk with me. So they walked over hill and dale, they crossed mountains, they crossed rivers, the story doesn't tell you how, but you have to take my word for it they did. They came to this huge cave and inside the cave there were all different sizes of candles. Some