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LB 1021

followed by Senator Schimek, Brashear, Coordsen, Thompson, Senator Kristensen. Senator Dierks, on the amendment.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I'd like to visit with Senator Schimek, I believe.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Schimek, would you respond to a question?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes.

SENATOR DIERKS: Senator Schimek, I'm going to describe a couple of things to you and you tell me what has to happen as a result of that.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: I'll try.

SENATOR DIERKS: When I go to an American Legislative Exchange Council meeting in Washington, D.C., that's paid for by scholarships that are granted by corporate America: Dow Chemical, Philip Morris, Coors, those type of people. They pay for everything. They pay for the train...the plane ticket, they pay for the reserva...the room reservation, they pay for the meeting costs. Everything is paid for by them. When I come home, I write a letter to them. They give me a list of those people, and I write a letter to one or two of them, thanking them for it, telling them what a wonderful experience it was, encouraging they continue to do that. When I go to an NCSL meeting, the Legislature pays for that or it comes from state funds--the plane ticket, the reservations. How does that vary in the way that I report that?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Senator, you're getting into an area that I think is a bit difficult. And I know Frank Daley is standing right back there in the Rotunda, and we might like to ask him about it. I'm not certain what all the regulations are on accepting those kinds of things. If they are...are they lobbyists here in the state?

SENATOR DIERKS: Well, as far as the ALEC people are concerned, they have people who are registered to lobby here, yes.