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January 24, 2003 LB 167

would have to and...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, because our time is up.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Oh, okay.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Mines, on the advancement of LB 167 to E & R Initial.

SENATOR MINES: Mr. President, members of the body, here's the freshman piping up again. I thought it might be of interest, I had my city of Blair check on what the price is, and they do offer \$10,000 coverage. But the difference between a \$5,000 policy and a \$10,000 policy in Blair is \$25.44. We have, roughly, 60 volunteer firefighters and rescue squad personnel, so it's approximately a 1,500 dollar difference between \$5,000 and \$10,000. Volunteer firefighters and rescue squad personnel are my heroes, and I will stand by them every step of the way. But true to my local control theory, Senator Jensen or Janssen, excuse me, your bill says that we shall provide this policy and this coverage for these individuals, in effect, a mandate that local government must fund a higher premium. And I would suggest that perhaps this bill say "may" rather than "shall," allowing each community to make their own decision on what's best. I hope they all provide \$20,000 policies, at least, but, again, we're mandating to the local level that they shall carry a certain level of insurance. And I'll yield the rest of my time.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Mines. Senator Louden, on the advancement of LB 167.

SENATOR LOUDEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In our area, we have our rural fire districts and it encompasses a lot of territory, and we have a problem of having a list of who our volunteer firefighters are. And we have to nearly include everyone in a county as a potential firefighter, the women along with men. If we have to mandate this, it is going to cost our fire district a sum of money that we usually can't afford because we only get to levy three-quarters of a mill levy for operations. I think if this was...needs to be done, it could be done on a local level,