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April 1, 2003 LB 210

SENATOR CONNEALY: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I think when you're farming with your family, I think that that's a good amendment that would not overreach. The question is how many people we're going to have in the system, and how much cut workers...how much we're going to cover under workers' comp. Traditionally, we thought that everybody in agriculture was exempt. The Supreme Court ruling cast doubt on that, really put everybody back in. What we need is a line, so that people don't get caught, so people don't think that they're covered by their medical insurance and not by some other system, and thus are at jeopardy. We want to make sure as many people as possible are covered, and do it in a fashion that allows people to have that bright line of where your health insurance covers and where your workers' compensation insurance covers. So this is a very needed bill. And I will support Senator Baker's amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Connealy. The immediate issue before us is the Baker amendment. There are no lights on. Senator Baker, you may close on your amendment if you care to.

SENATOR BAKER: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. Very briefly. I urge you support this. As I said in my opening, farming operations, feed...cattle feeding, are not what they used to be. And there's obviously multi-generations involved in most of these, as there should be. I know that's our case. And I might add that although a lot of these people may not actually be required to offer these things, they're going to do anyway. But this simply clarifies the language, makes sure that people realize that someone who's feeding cattle for a son is not going to be subjecting that income as part of the 40 percent that would force them to be covered by workmen's comp. And I would ask for your adoption of this amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Baker. You've heard the closing on AM1083, which is to the Business and Labor Committee amendment to LB 210. The question before the body is adoption of that amendment. All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. We're voting on adoption of the Baker amendment, AM1083. Have you all voted who care to? Record please, Mr. Clerk.