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because of the reasonableness of what we're doing.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, I understand, even though our suit...our insurance is going up too, I think.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Everybody's insurance is going up. Simply a fact of life post-September 11.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Senator Brashear, there are no further lights on. You're recognized to close on the second component of the divided committee amendments to LB 146.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. Thank you, Senator Aguilar. Yes, I agree with you. This division was worthwhile and providing the...you made it possible to have an opportunity for a more in-depth discussion of the technical aspects of the bill and the cap. I repeat again, in case anybody was off the floor, that this is an increase in the medical liability cap under the Nebraska Hospital-Medical Liability Act. We have not increased that cap for 11 years. The increase is that which is reflected by the application of the Consumer Price Index for those 11 years. It has been agreed to, and that testimony was provided before your Judiciary Committee, by the Medical Association and the Hospital Association. The trial lawyers appeared neutral before the committee with regard to the bill which contained this increase, and this has been a longstanding effort simply because justice requires that we update this act economically so that our injured parties are able to recover in accordance with their actual medical damages, which have been increasing in cost and expense. That's an inflationary fact of life. I would urge your adoption of this division of the committee amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Brashear. You've heard the closing on FA1316, which is the second portion of the divided committee amendments to LB 146. All in favor of that motion vote aye, opposed nay. Voting on the second component of