

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

February 10, 2004 LB 1049

It hurts people. It's going to force them onto the Medicaid rolls. You already know that we're in a significant budget crisis here, due in large part to our Medicaid growth, at 13-14 percent. I'd suggest to you that this could actually drive people onto Medicaid rolls. And once they're on there,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BOURNE: ...I'm not sure that they're going to get off. Senator Schimek, would you yield to a question or two, again, about your bill...or excuse me, your amendment to Senator Louden's amendment?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, I would.

SENATOR BOURNE: My sense is, is that we shouldn't offer unemployment compensation to people who have other means of income. And I think I said that about Senator Louden's bill. If an individual is receiving Social Security retirement, I'm not sure they should get unemployment benefits, because I don't think that's what the system is designed for. So can you tell me, the individuals contemplated in your amendment, do they receive benefits somewhere else? Are they...somewhere else, not another job, but, you know, a government payment of some sort?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes. And you know that if they get disability compensation payments that are military related, service connected, they're already exempted under this, and it does not have to be subtracted. But if they've been on active duty and have come back,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: I'm sorry. Time is up. Thank you, Senator Bourne. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I knew that as soon as I said that Senator Louden's amendment was good and I was not going to support it because I didn't want it on this bad bill, others would start suddenly saying, yeah, it's a good amendment and they're going to support it. It should not