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SENATOR SCHIMEK: Okay. Thank you very much.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Mr. President, I think I will return my time to the Chair.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Senator Louden, on the Schimek amendment to your amendment.

SENATOR LOUDEN: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. I think this discussion on original bill, LB 1049, is well and good. But I would like to see...the business at hand, to me, is Senator Schimek's amendment, FA1457. And I think if we can direct our attention to that, it would probably help a little bit. I would like to ask Senator Schimek some questions, if she would yield.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Schimek, would you yield to a question from Senator Louden?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Certainly.

SENATOR LOUDEN: Yes, Senator Schimek, how many people are involved in your amendment? I mean, how many people would there be eligible to receive these benefits with your amendment? Do you have any idea?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Well, Senator, that's probably a moving target. I'm guessing it is, anyway, because we don't know how many of our troops are going to be called up for a national emergency or an international conflict. Right now the number is higher than it would have been two years ago. So there could be some roller coaster effect here, I believe anyway.

SENATOR LOUDEN: I guess what I'm wondering is, would the cost be greater than what the cost of the amendment, AM2291? Would this cost...would this add more cost onto the fund?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: It would add some cost onto the fund, yes.