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LB 998

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: ...with 28 claims closed, we paid out \$11,136,000.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But let's say \$14 million, so we'll say even more.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Okay.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And how much money is in that fund right now?

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: \$57,052,000.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So if nothing else were put into the fund, and cases were closed at the same rate that they were this year, there would be about three years' amount of time that we could say the fund will cover.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: And that's why I prioritized this bill. I think it's very important that we maintain the viability of that fund. And we don't want to encroach on it beyond its capacity.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Pederson.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Thank you.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Members of the Legislature, this is a bill that I think we ought to enact. And I do feel that in the other area that I was discussing, or at least that I touched on, we should consider raising the amount, the maximum amount that a person can recover. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. You've heard the opening on FA1494 to the committee amendments to LB 998. Now open for discussion on the Chambers amendment. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I'm not going to take a vote on this proposed amendment that I'm offering. I will withdraw it. But I need to get some understanding of the bill. And my colleagues may or may not