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March 10, 2004 LB 1005

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Yeah. How much is currently in the fund?

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Seven hundred and fifty thousand.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Okay. And if you have declared 88 counties to be short of psychiatric care, for example, that could be a large burden, assuming you could find enough psychiatrists, which of course are in short supply, in order to meet the needs of that area. Is that correct?

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: That's correct. But if...currently, it's very hard to get psychiatrists to practice in rural Nebraska. And we're not talking about psychiatrists in my bill. We're talking about psychologists and licensed mental health practitioners.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Yeah. I think you did mention psychiatrists when you were...

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: If I did, I was...

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: ...making your earlier remarks.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: I'm sorry, Senator. If I did, I was in error.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: So what was the limitation in that respect then?

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: This is for doctorate and master levels in mental health practitioners.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Okay. Thank you very much.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Pederson. Further discussion on the adoption of AM2910? Senator Cunningham, there are no further lights on. He waives the opportunity to close. The question before the body is the Cunningham amendment, AM2910, to LB 1005. All in favor of the motion vote aye, opposed nay. The question before the body is the Cunningham amendment, AM2910, which is an amendment to LB 1005. Have you