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FLOOR DEBATE

March 24, 2004 LB 998

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Clerk, LB 998.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 998 on Select File. Senator Pederson, I do have Enrollment and Review amendments, first of all, Senator. (AM7182, Legislative Journal page 857.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Okay. Senator Mossey. Senator Pederson, would you do the E & R amendments, please?

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: If I paid closer attention, I'd know those magic words. But I would move the approval of the E & R amendments.

SENATOR CUDABACK: You've heard the motion to approve the E & R amendments to LB 998. All in favor say aye. Opposed nay. They are adopted.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Pederson would move to amend with AM2887. (Legislative Journal page 992.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Pederson, to open on AM2887 to LB 998.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. This is a very simple amendment. You've heard those words before. In order to maintain the solvency of the Excess Liability Fund, it became apparent that the Legislature must raise the underlying coverage. If you remember, in the original green copy of LB 998, statutes were amended that raised the coverage from the required \$200,000 to \$500,000 for medical providers; the annual aggregate from \$600,000 to \$1 million; and for hospitals, from \$1 million to \$3 million. The bill was advanced from General File. When the Revisor's Office was reviewing and checking the bill for E & R, they found additional statutes, 44-2825 to 44-2832, and 44-2833, that still referred to the limits of \$200,000 versus \$500,000 that had not been included in the original bill. Thus, AM2887 simply harmonizes all statutes and ensures that the dollar figures are the same in reference to the Excess Liability Fund. I would ask your approval of this amendment.