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FLOOR DEBATE

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and city attorneys may, in certain instances, choose to take up the prosecution of these types of cases. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. You've heard the opening on FA1661. Open for discussion. No lights on, Senator Beutler. He waives closing. The question before the body is adoption of FA1661, offered by Senator Beutler to the Health and Human Services Committee amendments that have been already amended. All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted who care to? Record please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 33 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of Senator Beutler's amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The motion was successful. The amendment has been adopted.

CLERK: Mr. President, I have nothing further pending to the committee amendments at this time.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Discussion of the committee amendments? Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature, Senator Erdman, you've done an awful lot of work on this bill and I think it's in fine shape as far as I'm concerned. I just wanted to take a minute to point out a certain section of the bill, not to be critical but because we didn't get to a bill this year. It will be back next year. It has to do with the Performance Audit Committee and the ability of the Performance Audit Committee to look at records that may be deemed confidential for one reason or another. And I want to make the argument to you, I think it's a compelling argument, that in certain situations, in order for a Performance Audit Committee to function properly, you do have to have authorization to look at confidential records from time to time on a limited basis, and that that will need to extend to a attorney-client relationship, doctor-patient relationships. In this bill, if you look at page 11, it says the Attorney General, in examining Medicaid records, shall safeguard the privacy rights of recipients, avoiding unnecessary disclosure. But nonetheless,