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FLOOR DEBATE

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committee amendment, so...

SENATOR HUDKINS:     Then I would prefer to wait until the bill itself is discussed.

SENATOR CUDABACK:    Thank you, Mr. Clerk and Senator Hudkins. Next speaker, Senator Beutler, to the committee amendments.

SENATOR BEUTLER:     Senator Mines, again, if I may have a conversation with you?

SENATOR CUDABACK:    Senator Mines.

SENATOR MINES:     Yes, Senator.

SENATOR BEUTLER:     I want to continue to follow on this interstate compact that we're entering into by virtue of voting for this bill. Not only are we switching authority away from this body to a body outside the state for a, hopefully, worthwhile benefit, but we are also shifting power within the state to the executive branch, are we not, in the sense that our representatives, the Director of Insurance, I would think you would agree is certainly more accountable to the Governor in this situation than...and that that responsibility to the...what is the relationship between the Governor and the Director of the Department of Insurance and his legislative policymaking in that compact?

SENATOR MINES:     Well, the relationship...

SENATOR BEUTLER:     I mean, is it...does he have the normal relationship of the Director of Insurance to the Governor? He does what the Governor says?

SENATOR MINES:     The Director of Insurance serves at the pleasure of the Governor. He is executive branch, that's correct.

SENATOR BEUTLER:     Okay. So we can expect that in this lawmaking compact that we are putting a person there that is not a legislator and not directly responsible to the Legislature, but whose job depends on the Governor. And, therefore, is it a fair