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SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Mines. You've heard the opening on the committee amendments to LB 389. Open for discussion on those amendments. Senator Kremer, followed by Senator Redfield.

SENATOR KREMER: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I would like to rise in support of LB 389. As Senator Mines mentioned, I think I introduced this bill two and maybe three times, I'm not sure; twice while I was on the Banking Committee and I think even once last year. The players have changed somewhat. Some of the more guilty parties have done better job, and there's others now that are doing worse. But when we would go around and talk to hospital administrators or nurse practitioners or nurses, it seemed like there was always one theme, that it was costing a lot of money, because it took so long to get claims processed and to get their money back, which was costing a lot of money. And we all know what costs of healthcare are doing in the last few years, and if there's just one thing here that can help, it's something that's very profitable. You know what happens if you don't play...pay your insurance premiums on time, and then it turns around in the insurance companies. And many times, and we had read in the bill and it's that way now too, 30 days after a clean claim, and that can even take a long time to get a clean claim, because they'll just keep sending it back for something that isn't quite right. But we've said 30 days after a clean claim, if you did not pay it, then there will be some interest involved in that, and they still opposed that. So I just want to congratulate Senator Mines for the power that he has to get accomplished something that needed to be done for a long time. So thank you very much and I support your bill.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Kremer. Senator Redfield.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the body, I do rise in support of the bill and the committee amendment as it is presented before you. In a nutshell, this is about paying your bills on time. It doesn't matter who you are. The bills need to be paid. If it is you going to a supplier and asking them to deliver a service to you in the medical field, they are going to expect that that copay is paid usually on the