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LB 709

mike, perhaps one way to go about incorporating this dimension to the study under LB 709 would just simply report to the Legislature those that are Medicaid-eligible and those that are receiving Medicaid benefits, and to identify correspondingly their employer, which may be one way to go about this. And then policymakers then can examine the employment base and the employer base relative to the outsourcing of the medical benefits associated with employment, to government. And relative to Senator Cunningham's concern, we do have a 25 threshold here, a 25-patient threshold relative to those that have received compensated care or received some sort of benefit through the Medicaid program. Only those employers that exceed the 25 threshold would be reported to the Legislature. And therefore, your small entrepreneurs, those that employ two or three, or five people, would not fall under the scope of AM1057. Thank you, Senator Cudaback. Are there any...did any lights come on, Senator?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Erdman's light did come on.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Thank you, Senator.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Erdman, you're recognized to speak.

SENATOR ERDMAN: Okay. Thank you, Mr. President. And I think furthering discussion with Senator Synowiecki's amendment, I think it's appropriate to request the information. The way that the system is set up, that information is gathered by the department when an individual applies for public assistance. The way that the N-FOCUS system is set up, however, that information is not searchable. It's dropped into a text field, then you can't go in and search for different companies or businesses that may fit into that classification. So you may have a list of companies that are 25 or greater, have employees 25 or greater, but the current system as it's set up now may have that information; in order to accomplish that or in order to get to that, you'd have to go through each individual line or, based on the printout that you would print out of those individuals, to be able to gather any of that information. So it's probably not readily available, but I do know that there are individuals willing to work with Senator Synowiecki to