

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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FLOOR DEBATE

April 5, 2005            LB 709

present or accounted for. Senator Synowiecki, how did you wish to proceed?

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: Senator Cudaback, I request a roll call vote, normal.

SENATOR CUDABACK: There's been a request for a roll call vote on the question of adoption of AM1057. Mr. Clerk, please, when you get time call the roll.

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Roll call vote taken, Legislative Journal page 1114.) The vote is 23 ayes, 9 nays on the adoption of AM1057.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Amendment not successful. AM1057 is not adopted and I do raise the call. Mr. Clerk, next motion.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Next amendment, Mr. President, by Senator Chambers. This is FA144. (Legislative Journal page 1114.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Chambers, to open on your amendment to the committee amendments.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, friends all, this is a very minor amendment and what it does, though, is of consequence as far as perception. On page 1 of the committee amendment, in line 22, you have language talking about controlling the growth of Medicaid spending. Instead of the word "control," I would strike that word and insert the word "mitigate." When you mitigate, you lessen or make less whatever it is that you're talking about. In the green copy of the bill, there was talk about reducing the number of people who would need Medicaid coverage. To get away from the idea that the goal of this study and the ultimate legislation is to put some kind of artificial line in place, and once that line is reached, anybody else is kept out of the picture. Control is not what is being sought, to my way of thinking, but rather a way to deal with the increase and the number of people who need Medicaid or an increase in the cost of it, not by arbitrarily limiting coverage, not by arbitrarily cutting off people who are on Medicaid, not by arbitrarily putting an impediment to the