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Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

April 5, 2005

LB 709

your amendment to the committee amendments.

SENATOR BYARS: Thank you, Senator Cudaback, colleagues. I'm going to talk about this amendment for just a moment and then I'm going to withdraw it and take it up, refile it on Select File after Senator Erdman and I have a chance to work through appropriate wording. We have briefly discussed the amendment and I agree with him that some of the wording in the amendment might be changed, but I again, I think from an intent standpoint and how this body makes public policy, I think it's important that we have language similar to this in this bill before we move it, if we choose to, past Select File to E & R for engrossing. But basically, what my amendment does, and if you start back in Section 3, the purpose of the Medicaid Reform Act and on page 1, starts on line 18, you jump over to page 2, and what I want...what I'm doing in this amendment and what we'll work on to get better language, the amendment reads: ensure that this addresses and then meets the needs of the people in this state. I want to make certain that we have positive reenforced type language within this bill that, if this study as it goes forward sees not that there is a necessity for cuts or revamping of the system, but it finds that the needs of the people of the state of Nebraska are not met, that that is also brought forward in future legislation that's brought to this body next year. And I think it's a positive reinforcement. I think it's a message that this body sends that we are not drawing this legislation and moving legislation forward strictly, strictly to cut, to reduce resources and programs for the poor, the elderly and the disabled. And I don't...I think I've made it very clear my passion relative to this. Senator Erdman has assured me he will work with me on this language. I have faith that he will follow through with that. And Senator Cudaback, I want to thank everybody for the dialogue and the respect you have shown to those of us who have tremendous concerns, and who want to make sure that we protect the people in the state of Nebraska as well as being fiscally responsible in managing the interests of the state and our resources. And with that, Senator Cudaback, I would withdraw FA145.

SENATOR CUDABACK: FA145 is withdrawn. Mr. Clerk, anything further to the committee amendments?