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private sector insurance...we include this data within this approach. I would hope that members could find to adopt AM1209. It is a much more simplified version of the amendments that were run on General File, but yet I think it gets to what we need to focus on, and that is the role of private insurance, private sector insurance, and its corresponding relationship with our Medicaid expenditures. Thank you, Senator Cudaback.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Synowiecki. Open for discussion on AM1209, offered by Senator Synowiecki. Senator Synowiecki, I do not...there are. Senator Howard.

SENATOR HOWARD: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I rise to support good Senator Synowiecki on this amendment. This is information that is certainly vital to looking at the entire picture of Medicaid. In light of the private businesses requesting additional assistance from the state in terms of tax breaks, et cetera, I think we need to be very aware of the benefits they are providing their employees, and so I thank John for bringing this...Senator Synowiecki for bringing this amendment forward. And I return the remainder of my time to the Chair. Thank you, sir.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Howard. Further discussion? Senator Dwite Pedersen.

SENATOR DW. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. This is a little bit off the line of what we're talking about, but I wanted to...being as we've got a bureaucracy involved here, the Department of Health and Human Services, I wanted to bring up another bureaucracy at this time and ask you if you all read the World-Herald this morning, and why they closed the Hastings Regional Center prison. I've been trying for months to get numbers, even over a year to get numbers from the Department of Corrections and from our own Fiscal Office, on what's going on in Hastings with money. The World-Herald made it very clear this morning that it had nothing to do with INS not sending us enough prisoners to fill that place, but it had to do with price. You might read in the end of it that the federal office for INS has been approved to spend \$58 a day on inmates. And usually the federal government pays