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LB 312

gentle in terms of incenting those companies that are coming in to be able to go to another tier because they did provide health insurance. This is good public policy. I appreciate Senator Synowiecki's work on this issue, and urge you to support this amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Thompson. Senator Landis, followed by Senator Beutler.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I think this is the closest call of all the ones that we have. In fact, the idea of incentivizing was a thought that I think occurred out in the lobby, and might have been my idea (laugh) as a matter of fact. The net result, I think, will be this, and that is that the bill...this amendment may make the bill more expensive, and yet not necessarily create more medical coverage. I think for companies that already have benefits, they'll get more benefit from the bill because they have it. And maybe that's good enough. But I do fear that, while it does incent, it won't be the deciding point between creating health benefits and not. The net effect will be to make the bill more expensive, and I'm not sure we will get broader health coverage in exchange. Should we get health coverage? Gosh, I wish we could. What a great idea. And for those of you who vote for this, I understand perfectly. By the way, there are some technical amendments. In the event you're going to do this amendment, you probably need to make some adjustments. I think John has been given some thoughts on that. I've been given the same thing. But they're solvable. You could solve the technical problems with this idea. The question is whether you want to do this idea or not. I'll live with whatever results the body says, and I'll accept this and carry the bill forward with whichever choice you make. I will be "not voting." The "not voting" is because I think this amendment makes the bill more expensive, and yet I won't be able to necessarily identify broader health coverage as a consequence of paying more money in tax incentive benefits.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Landis. On with discussion. Senator Connealy, on the Synowiecki amendment.