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LB 589

the problem as they related it to us is that certain insurance companies were in the habit of simply stonewalling them, not giving them information, not giving them complete information or not even responding at all. By the way, the two largest insurance companies in the state they indicated cooperated very well, Blue Cross Blue Shield, Mutual. It was with an array of other companies, many of them out of state, that they were having the biggest problems. But notwithstanding that our two largest insurers were cooperating, the amount of money involved in the noncooperation of some of the others was huge. So this seeks to follow up on what DHH (sic) indicated to us and to make certain provisions in law regarding the obligation of insurance companies to cooperate with the Department of Health and Human Services. And when we get to the actual committee...amendment to the committee amendment, Senator Mines will go through the amendment and tell you what it is that we're expecting the insurance companies to do by way of cooperation. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. You've heard the opening on LB 589 by Chairman of the committee, Senator Beutler. There are committee amendments as stated. Senator Mines, from the Banking Committee, you're recognized to open as Chairman.

SENATOR MINES: Just as soon as I find my notes, Mr. President, I'll be with you. What the heck did I do with them? Chris, would you use a little time.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yield me some time, Senator, and I'll go forward.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Mines.

SENATOR MINES: I just found it.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you. You may now open.

SENATOR MINES: Thank you, Mr. President, colleagues. I apologize for the delay and I blame it all on Senator Redfield. (Laughter) And let me again thank Senator Beutler. This was a process filled with debate on all sides and I think we've come to a reasonable agreement and reasonable language for LB 589.