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May 31, 2005 LB 589

green copy of the bill?

SENATOR MINES: I can't answer that right now. I'm sorry, I don't have it in front of me, but...

SENATOR BOURNE: Okay, so...

SENATOR MINES: Staff is looking that up.

SENATOR BOURNE: Okay. Your amendment that we're discussing now will become the bill.

SENATOR MINES: That's correct.

SENATOR BOURNE: Okay. And my question is, again, we have, and I've said this on the floor many times, I mean, we have a Department of Insurance that is...it's as good as it gets. It's unparalleled, I feel, in the entire country.

SENATOR MINES: I agree.

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you. And I'm concerned that we, as a Legislature, have already charged our Department of Insurance with numerous things, one of which is regulating the insurance industry. And I'm trying to figure out why all of a sudden now we're delegating to the Department of Health and Human Services that authority to regulate a self-funded insurer.

SENATOR MINES: Senator Bourne, I was just told that we don't, "we" meaning the Department of Insurance, doesn't grant licenses to...

SENATOR BOURNE: I understand that, but if a self-funded insurer does something wrong, doesn't it come under the auspices of the Department of Insurance?

SENATOR MINES: I don't believe it does, Senator.

SENATOR BOURNE: So they have...the Department of Insurance has no authority in any regard on a third-party administrator that would be administrating...