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May 31, 2005 LB 116, 194

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...but could you talk about LB 194 and the committee's discussions on LB 194,...

SENATOR BOURNE: Right.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...and why the committee has not advanced it

to the floor?

SENATOR BOURNE: I can, and I'll...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Bourne.

SENATOR BOURNE: Senator Beutler, to be honest with you, we didn't have a lot of discussions after the hearing, because we had so many bills that were prioritized. We can of focused our attention on those. But I will tell you at the hearing there seemed to be a lot of confusion in this area. There was a court case that was handed down, and it was called the <u>Dailey</u> case, which some people are interpreting that means that the most a provider can collect from an individual who's injured is the amount that they, the provider, contracted with the insurance company for, and so it's unclear. And so I think during the hearing, at least my sense was, is before we pass out LB 194 we should see how this court case shakes out and how that is interpreted. And I don't know if that helps you, but I can tell you that...

SENATOR BEUTLER: Are you saying that the court case may well be saying that these providers cannot collect any more than what they contracted for, notwithstanding the lien statute?

SENATOR BOURNE: That is my interpretation of that court case. Now, I am...I will tell you that I don't believe some of the providers are interpreting it the same way.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay.

SENATOR BOURNE: And I'm not trying to be vague. I'm just simply saying that it's unclear and I think it's an area, due to the court case, that needs to shake out. But one thing I did