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LB 994

individuals involved, there might be more people on this. So I want to find that out, and some other information, so that I can better inform the body of this change that we are required to do to satisfy the federal government, and then also to make sure that we as a state are not sanctioned. That's all the amendment does. I'd be glad to answer any questions from the body. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Jensen. You've heard the opening on FA536, which is an amendment to AM2157 to LB 994. Open for discussion. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. What Senator Jensen told you is accurate. Over the noonhour also, I had a chance to meet with former Senator Chris Peterson, who is now the secretary of...I don't like to give that title, because I don't know exactly what it is, but she works with HHS. And I've been able to get many issues and problems resolved by working directly with her. So she's going to look for some information, too. In case I didn't make it clear this morning, I want to make it crystal-clear now, I did not mean that anybody who was talking to me on the floor, attempting to answer questions, was being dishonest. I did not want to convey that impression. I do not believe that anybody deliberately misrepresented any fact or told me something which they believed not to be true. My position on this bill, as it has been on others which purport to tell us what we must do to comply with federal law, is that I want to be shown unequivocally that there is a federal rule, regulation, or law itself which mandates that a state must do A, B, C, and D, or suffer the consequences of losing federal funds. Despite the best attempts of some of my colleagues to explain why this language was to be stricken, the language which would have put a 90-day limit on the amount of time a person could be required to do this unpaid labor, I believe they did the best they could to explain it, but their explanations simply were not persuasive to me. If I am shown an affirmative requirement on the part of the federal government that a state is prohibited from putting a time limit on the amount of time, whether it's days, weeks, or whatever, that a person can be required to do this unpaid labor, if I am shown an affirmative federal statement to that effect, I