TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

March 13, 2006 LB 1069

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Thank you. If I could ask Senator Baker a question, too, Mr. Speaker.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Baker, would you respond?

SENATOR BAKER: Yes, I would.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Senator Baker, did you discuss any about putting a limit on the amount of insurance that would have...or at least a minimum? And...

SENATOR BAKER: They would...

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: ...and also, secondly, I noticed you have added other people nonrelated as possible carriers, or users. Was that discussed in the hearing?

SENATOR BAKER: Yes, it was. And I believe...well, at that time...I can't...don't have the transcript here, but we had talked about it at the hearing, and questioned Senator Byars about it. And as I recall, he had no complaints and no concerns with expanding it a bit through this committee amendment.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Was there any testimony from anyone in the hearing about that? Or is it...I mean, expanding it...I'm concerned about some private carriers. And obviously, I've heard from them, maybe others have, where it's their mainline business. I certainly understand and appreciate the fact that HHS is looking to save some money. But on the other hand, we are...we have high demands on public carriers, contract carriers, that are going to be competing, and I'm just a little uncertain as to where this could lead. Do you have any...?

SENATOR BAKER: Do I have a response to that? I also have been contacted by two for-hire carriers within my district, I'll be honest with you. And I understand their concerns, although in their cases,...and I am fairly confident I understand their concerns, that they...travel time sometimes is a problem, getting to these particular eligible people they're picking up. And they're both expanding and continue to expand. And I think