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FLOOR DEBATE

March 29, 2006 LB 489

this through cash funds. They are going to be out of money this year, so they do need...we do need to do that. I don't know what they would do if we didn't raise the fees, if they wouldn't inspect elevators anymore, I guess. I don't know. The second issue actually is a work comp issue that we felt we just couldn't let go on any longer and take a chance of an employee being billed a large sum of money. And that's about the only thing that we're salvaging from the work comp work that we did this year.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Wehrbein. Through, Senator Wehrbein? Seeing no other lights on, Senator Cunningham, you're recognized to close.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Well, thank you, Senator Cudaback. The amendment we're dealing with right now is the balance billing amendment to protect employees and, as I stated, the language is very controversial. You do it one way and one side is mad; you do it the other way and the other side is mad. But we just had trouble this year getting people to the table and we felt that there was...we just, in some way, had to do this one thing that protected the employee. And so if we can come up with better language between now and Select File to do the same thing for the employee, we will offer that, but at this point this is the best that I have. But I will tell you the business community and the insurance companies are quite unhappy the way it is right now. There was another option of a way to do it, but it affected the hospitals and doctors the other way. So it's just very controversial. But right now I would urge your vote on this amendment because I think we really need to get this passed this year.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Cunningham. You heard the closing on AM2948. The question before the body is, shall that amendment be adopted? All in favor vote aye; opposed vote nay. Voting on adoption of the Cunningham amendment, AM2948, to LB 489. Have you all voted on the question who care to? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 32 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of Senator Cunningham's amendment.