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FLOOR DEBATE

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I think. Didn't I...don't I have my light on?

(WOMAN): You can't do that, Pat.

SENATOR BOURNE: Okay.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Bourne, we'll take the amendments in the order. Thank you.

SENATOR BOURNE: Okay. Sorry.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Senator Bourne would offer AM0854, Mr. President. (Legislative Journal page 1010.)

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Bourne, you're recognized to open.

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you. I guess I...thank you, Mr. President, members. I...I haven't had my coffee this morning. I thought I could speak before the amendment. I apologize. This amendment...well, first of all, I want to say that I support the concept of pooling. I think, in general, it's a good idea, but it has to be approached in a cautious, well-thought-out manner. And I did vote for this bill coming out of committee because I do believe that the concept of pooling is good, particularly with Department of Insurance oversight. However, since this bill came out of committee I have done a little more research on it and I do have some concerns, and so I filed this amendment. And basically what my amendment does, it goes in on page 6, on line 4, where it says, "Any two or more public agencies", and then I've added, other than school districts, educational service units, community colleges, and Nebraska state colleges may make and execute an agreement providing for joint insurance pooling, basically. And the reason I did this is because I'm concerned with the educators' insurance pool. Currently, the educators have about a 70,000-person pool that provides insurance for educators for both K through 12 and community colleges, state colleges, things of that nature, and I'm concerned that if we allow pooling there will be a concept known in the insurance industry as adverse