

May 4, 1979

LB 172

SPEAKER MARVEL: Motion is carried. Debate ceases. The Chair recognizes Senator Schmit to close.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I am not taking a lot of time. I think Senator Hoagland, Senator Carsten, Senator Cullan have outlined the procedure that was used here which has worked very effectively which we think we have reason to be proud of and which we have agreed to review from time to time if necessary as the situation develops to determine if additional help needs to be provided. As I said earlier, there were some areas that we were not able to resolve. There are some health care providers who are not satisfied. If we think that those issues can be resolved in the future, we are going to operate in a certain amount of good faith. I think that the good faith that has been evidenced here by the Public Health Committee and the members of the Legislature in resolving this very important issue is most laudatory and I think that the members of this body will agree that this bill will be an effective step forward and one which will be looked at in future years as a really fine advance in health care cost containment. I want to say also I said before one time on this floor that I did not think the insurance companies were as vigorous in asking for cost containment as they should have been. I can say without equivocation that Blue Cross-Blue Shield supports this bill very strongly. They feel it is a very necessary bill and they give it their endorsement. I hope that other insurers will also follow this legislation and grant it their support. I ask for the adoption of the amendments.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Motion is the adoption of the amendments as explained or concluded in his explanation by Senator Schmit. All those in favor of adoption of those amendments vote aye, opposed no. Record.

CLERK: 33 ayes, 0 nays on adoption of the amendment, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Motion is carried. The amendments are adopted. Senator Schmit, do you wish to move the bill?

SENATOR SCHMIT: I move the bill be advanced as amended.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Motion is the advancement of LB 172. All those in favor of that motion say aye, opposed no. Motion is carried. The bill is advanced. Before we begin with the next item which is item #6, I would like to make this