

maintenance organization unless it is controlled by an insurance company licensed by the Department of Insurance under Chapter 44, a fraternal benefit society, a mandatory state pooling plan, an unincorporated mutual association, an assessment association operating under 44, and a reciprocal or interinsurance exchange. That is what shall not be covered. Maybe you could tell me what is covered. What is left in and why do we identify...

SENATOR BARRETT: Domestic and foreign insurance companies that are selling life and health and annuities, with the exception of these that are listed, are covered.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Did you say nondomestic?

SENATOR BARRETT: Pardon?

SENATOR PIRSCH: Okay, is there a reason that we identified them now and that we are identifying them now, or did we add to the exemption?

SENATOR BARRETT: We did not add other than those...just those few words, Senator Pirsch. This list has been in statute for some time. These companies...I don't believe these companies are paying premium tax in Nebraska. I think that is probably the ultimate answer. The assessment is made for life and health companies based on two percent of the premiums that are paid. I don't believe these companies are paying premium tax.

SENATOR PIRSCH: So these companies are not paying premium tax, so therefore they are not a member of the pool and will not get a credit on there.

SENATOR BARRETT: Yes, and these companies, to the best of my knowledge, don't want to be included in the pool.

SENATOR PIRSCH: And we have not added any then, under this?

SENATOR BARRETT: No.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Okay, thank you very much.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President, I call the question.