

think you mentioned it in your opening statements...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR CARSTEN: ...that both the lawyers and the insurance people have...and I thought I understood you to say, had some mutual agreement or at least consent on this. Now, is that incorrect or correct? As I understood you in your opening statements, you said that both the trial lawyers and the insurance people had either consented to this agreement or had some consent to it. Would you qualify that for me, please?

SENATOR DECAMP: Absolutely. When they were having their negotiations and discussions, one of the ideas brought up by the insurance industry was "the California concept, California plan". The trial attorneys at that time didn't want to do that. I have suggested that this is a middle of the road settlement. It is today accepted by the trial attorneys. The original idea came out of the insurance industry. I don't suppose either of them, if they were choosing, would choose this. It is a true compromise but it is a compromise forged, if it is accepted by the Legislature, as opposed to by this particular industry or that particular industry.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Okay.

SENATOR DECAMP: It came from one side. The other side is willing to accept it today.

SENATOR CARSTEN: I know I am running out of time but I have got one short question. What I am hoping is that this may be, may very well be the end to this long year after year after year controversy that we can bring to an end, is why I am so interested in hoping that a middle of the road agreement can be adopted by this body. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator Carsten. Senator Hannibal, speaking on the DeCamp amendment.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, I rise to support the amendment, of course. I am one of the members on the amendment. We have been through this a lot of times and yet we haven't yet talked