

issues of managed care and taking away the right to choose a physician of one's own choosing, taking away the right to manage their own care, have their own physician manage their care, taking away all these other rights. Safety committees are simply in there as a red herring, in logic terms...

SPEAKER BAACK: Time. Thank you, Senator Lindsay. Senator Abboud.

SENATOR ABBOUD: Thank you, Mr. President, Mr. Speaker, colleagues. The safety committee, as we talked about, I think Senator Lindsay's really goes to the heart of this debate of safety committees, that being, should committees be established in this particular manner by state statute? Would Senator Landis yield to a question?

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Landis, would you respond, please.

SENATOR LANDIS: Yes.

SENATOR ABBOUD: Senator Landis, you're kind of an expert on workers' comp now...

SENATOR LANDIS: No, not really.

SENATOR ABBOUD: ...so I thought I'd ask you a couple of questions. First off, are safety committees, do they exist in the state right now?

SENATOR LANDIS: Voluntarily, there are a number of companies that have safety committees.

SENATOR ABBOUD: Okay. And what has been the success rate with these voluntary committees that have been safety committees?

SENATOR LANDIS: My guess is that they vary employer by employer.

SENATOR ABBOUD: Okay, all right, fair enough, thank you. The issue really is, is this in the employer's best interest to have safety committees? And I would assume that with most employers they would love to have these safety committees because they have the opportunity of having people, employees of theirs come forward and state this is the problem that we're having with our company. These people are working for the company, they have an