

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Landis. Mr. Clerk, an amendment...we are on an amendment to the amendment. Okay, Senator Abboud, you're light is next on your amendment.

SENATOR ABOUD: Mr. President, I would like to continue the discussion I began with Senator Landis. Senator Landis, would you want to continue on with some questions?

SENATOR HALL: Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Yes. I was asking at the point who makes this denial of compensability. If a middle level manager says, I don't think you're responsible, that's one thing. If it's...if it's the insurance company that denies a claim, I feel that's another. What do you...who are the people empowered under your amendment to make this denial of compensability?

SENATOR ABOUD: The amendment, when it comes to denial of compensability, is by an insurance company, risk management pool, self-insured employer, it would be from those entities. It wouldn't be from a middle management person, it would be a denial from those particular entities. So that's...they would have to be representing those particular entities in order to have a denial.

SENATOR LANDIS: Okay. With respect to the questions that I've asked and your answers, I sense that we have the same understanding and, with that, let me tell you that I...I intend to vote for and accept the Abboud amendment to 575...757.

SENATOR ABOUD: Thank you.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Abboud. Senator Chambers, your light is next.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, Senator Hohenstein began to discuss an area that is very similar to what has been troubling me about this bill, one aspect of it anyway. The amendment that Senator Abboud is offering deals with denial of compensability. What I'm interested in is a related issue where compensability has not been denied but the level or percentage. What percent of disability is there or what is the level of compensability? And what I would be concerned or where my concern would arise would be a situation