

session, I am sure. We also wanted to deal with the Medicaid reimbursement formula. The decision there was that we will deal with that through rule and regulation with the Department of Social Services, as opposed to introducing legislation. Fourth piece of legislation was to deal with long term insurance. Long term insurance is a product that will, hopefully, when it becomes fully marketable and available to all people, deal with the problems of individuals who have saved all of their lives, put money aside and then go into nursing homes and end up spending down all of their resources within a one to two to three-year period. Long term insurance is a product that individuals buy while they are working. They pay into this insurance fund and when and if they have to go into a nursing home, they then are reimbursed for a portion of those payments. This is a new product. It is not highly developed. It is not being marketed in Nebraska to the extent that it should be. We felt that some legislation was needed regulating the sale of this for two reasons, one, to prevent those very few individuals out there that may seek to profit from selling this insurance to individuals who may not be the most wary consumers. Secondly, we need to pass legislation that will encourage those companies that are developing this product to come to the State of Nebraska and market it. Hence, it was believed after lots of discussion among those representing the elderly, those representing the insurance department and those in the insurance industry that the best course of action would be to adopt basically the model act that is being developed by the...those entities that are represented in Washington, D.C., as an interest in this and that we adopt that in the State of Nebraska as a signal to the insurance industry that those legitimate carriers of this product should be coming to Nebraska and making this product available to our individuals who are in their fifties or early sixties who seek the...who would like to use this as a...as a vehicle to provide for themselves when and if they have to go in nursing homes. I certainly thank Senator Remmers and the Banking Committee for their work on this amendment and would urge you to adopt the committee amendments.

**SPEAKER BARRETT:** Thank you. Additional discussion on the amendments? Senator Landis. Senator Landis, would you care to discuss the committee amendments?

**SENATOR LANDIS:** I support the bill and the committee amendment, Speaker. I just want to give notice to the body that I have drafted amendments to 416. They are an insurance matter but not directly on point. It has a...if these sections are opened up