

think HMOs is a logical distinction that could be drawn that is limited geographically in this state primarily to our urban areas and many of the people that have the most passion on this issue are, quite frankly, unaffected by Senator Wesely's amendment so I understand why they're voting no because it's limited geographically where those HMOs are in existence. and where they aren't in existence you have to think about the philosophy. You have people for a variety of reasons that are signed up for an HMO, they limit their choice of doctors when they do that, they are wanting to try and find a way to cut costs, understanding that may impact their choice in health care, I kind of think that makes sense. And to have 718 in its present form apply to HMOs, well, I, myself, might be able to live with, I guess I don't think it's worth including them for the sake of possibly losing the bill and certainly, given my own philosophy, it makes perfect sense to me to adopt Senator Wesely's amendment and move forward with the bill, but basically accomplishes 95 percent of what it set out to do. Taking just HMOs off the table does not certainly set the bill back that far, I think it makes a big step in the right direction. Now there wasn't enough votes when we voted on it, I think it makes some sense whether or not...I mean I plan to vote for advancing the bill regardless of myself, to tell you the truth, but I think it just makes it a much stronger bill and it's a defensible vote to make on Senator Wesely's amendment. You go down that list of noes and not voting you have to understand many of the people that talked to you from your area probably were not affected by Senator Wesely's amendment. You need to understand that and understand that when you talk about a philosophy of health care, when you talk about managed care, when you talk about trying to control costs, I think you could make some arguments whether you do or don't, but you need the flexibility to do whatever it takes to limit your choice. If that means limited choice in prescriptions, so be it. And so I would urge the body to reconsider its vote on Senator Wesely's amendment and then advance the bill.

SPEAKER WITH THEM: Thank you, Senator Moore. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I support Senator Moore's reconsideration motion and since this issue is so murky now and there are so many cross currents, the thing that those who want this bill, the thing they should do is vote for this amendment. That's all that is available realistically. That's just my opinion as somebody who has not