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because it will mean that the analysis contained in the state plan developed by the Department of Health with input from the providers can be used to evaluate an application. Now let me just say, Mr. Chairman, in conclusion that I think a lot of our constituents really feel helpless about rising medical costs and about rising health care costs. I know my family doctor sent a message to me through my wife yesterday that we need a strong certificate of need bill and he deplored some of the recent expansions that have been going on in Nebraska hospitals that are not legitimate and that are unnecessary. Now a lot of us have spent a number of hours on this issue the last couple of weeks and we have really gotten into it where we have attempted to understand it as well as we can and I think it is clear that the committee amendments here really represent a gutted bill and they represent a gutted bill which I think is an insult to the integrity of this legislator because that bill would pretend and would purport to regulate the providers of health care but in fact it would have no effective regulation whatsoever and I think it is clear that the lobbyists for those groups have literally taken the heart out of this bill in pushing through the committee amendments and I think here that we have got to stand firm and we have got to stand firm in favor of a strong cost containment bill. Now again these committee amendments, the amendments to the committee amendments we are presenting bring it back merely to the green copy and it is not as strong a bill as a lot of us would like to see but at least it is a step and it is a step on a long, long road towards effective hospital cost containment that I think we should take today in a clear and in a decisive fashion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Hoagland, I believe Senator Maresh wanted to ask you a question before his time was up.

SENATOR MARESH: Senator Hoagland, a question on the Department of Health are given all the authority in making determinations. There is no advisory committee now in your amendments like we had...as the committee amendments had?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: No. The advisory committee is left in, Senator.

SENATOR MARESH: Oh, the advisory committee is still in there?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: It is still in there, that is correct.

SENATOR MARESH: I see. Thank you, Senator Hoagland. I think something that ought to be pointed out that all these