

would be otherwise and I think that is really the point of this legislation. It is going to buy us some time. It is going to keep us from having the medical arms race that we have seen prior to the bill being introduced in Omaha and elsewhere in this state where they all have to have the newest hospital and the newest most expensive equipment and that is really what it is all about in health care. We need to stop that mentality and reverse it and get back to the basic services and basic quality health care in this state and so what I say to you is, let's keep a strong CON and let's work with Senator DeCamp and Senator Schmit who are concerned about coming up with an alternative that is better because I'm not against what they are saying. I think we should come up with a better alternative and I've tried to do that. LB 880 is one step in that direction. LB 835 to be heard this afternoon is another. That says when a patient leaves the hospital they get a billing that identifies some specifics exactly what they are paying for and let me tell you something on that point, you're going to find that people, maybe they aren't paying for that total bill but at least they are going to understand for the first time exactly what the charges are, whether insurance is paying it or Medicaid or Medicare or whatever but they are going to have an understanding they don't have now and that is what we have to start interjecting in this system, some understanding on the part of the public. I think that when we vote on LB 378 to advance it we're not voting just on the question of LB 378. I think we are voting on the question of the integrity and the courage of this Legislature because I think it is clear from the comments we've had on this floor from the debate that there is a lot of problems with this legislation and a lot of problems with health care. Now I would ask you to vote against the advancement of this bill and to try to hold the bill at least for the short time we need to try and work out some of these...

PRESIDENT: One minute, Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: ...compromises. When you talk about hearing the voice of the people I think you've got to listen to that voice in your conscience because it is your conscience that knows what is right and what is wrong and you've heard the issues explained more than any other people in this State of Nebraska because you have had the benefit of the testimony and the discussion on this floor in the last couple of days and you know there are problems with this bill. And so I ask you and I urge you to please vote against the bill as Senator Schmit talked about to try and give us some