

would...I will not recognize that in view of the limited amount of discussion that has taken place. Thank you, Senator Hall. Senator Crosby.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just want to reiterate what I said before about this amendment, that eliminating Commonwealth eliminates the cornerstone of the whole question, and \$800,000 is a very small amount of money compared to what these people really lost and I just feel strongly that you should not amend Commonwealth out of it. If you do, that, in my way of thinking, eliminates almost the whole bill, the whole idea of the bill. The Commonwealth depositors are the ones who really have worked very hard to see to it that everyone is treated fairly in all of these banks, so I urge you not to vote for this amendment and keep Commonwealth as part of LB 356. Again, I say Commonwealth is the cornerstone. It's failure is what started the run on those other banks. You can't get away from that, so please don't...vote against this amendment, please. Don't take Commonwealth out. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Schmit, followed by Senators Landis and Wesely.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members, I also rise in opposition to the committee amendments. I agree with what Senator Crosby has said and I'll be very frank and brief that I believe that all of the entities should be treated equally, and that if we are going to discuss the issue on the floor, we ought to discuss them in their entirety. There is a...is some difference with Commonwealth, but I still believe that the matter of equity demands that we discuss each of them at the same time and then allow the Legislature to make a decision as we proceed. So I would ask you to reject the committee amendments at this time.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I've been asked the legal status...if I could summarize the legal status of claims against the state and actions that we've had in the past, and I'll do my best. Frankly, this is a difficult area and I hope that my statement is in all detail correct. We passed LB 1 and it was approved by the Governor in 1985. It was an \$8.5 million settlement of the Commonwealth tort claim. It was a settlement reached between