

reduce the burden of CON regulation by eliminating review of relatively small capital expenditures, equipment purchases and other investments in new services. A 19...this is very important, a 1988 report by the staff of the FTC Bureau of Economics suggests that hospitals in states with higher CON thresholds have lower overall cost, and I think that is very important. This took a long time, the 13 pages of support for LB 429, so I urge you to reject Senator Wesely's amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Lynch, please.

SENATOR LYNCH: Question.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Lynch poses the previous question. Do I see five hands? I do. Those in favor of ceasing debate please vote aye, opposed nay. Record, please.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Debate does cease. Senator Wesely, would you care to close on your amendment?

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members, again, this amendment amends the original amendment. The original amendment wanted to have a \$50,000 threshold. The current statute calls for no threshold, zero dollar threshold. The \$50,000 threshold is what is recommended by the Health Department as a reasonable threshold. I am in an attempt to compromise which has been done throughout this bill as we get a chance to get back to the main bill, want to try and provide for that to go from 50 to \$500,000. Now some people have opposed it and I'm not quite sure why. As we further discussed the amendment it seems to me as I am offering a chance to compromise you would at least take that advantage and try and amend the amendment to deal with that. To go from 50 to \$500,000 is quite a change and still a very substantial increase. It is short of what originally is proposed in the bill or short of even as it is amended, but nevertheless, I think it is a reasonable effort to compromise and I would ask your help to reach that level.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. And the question is the adoption of the Wesely amendment to the amendment. All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Record, please.

CLERK: 4 ayes, 14 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the