

additional things, to put more money in and not to come back with any idea whatsoever on how we can save money is, to me, irresponsible. For us to then turn around and give them what they want without asking for something in return, not demanding of them some ideas and suggestions or proposals that would help us contain health care costs, I think is just not serving the public interest. And so I think trying to discuss and raise this issue is not inappropriate. This amendment, like the last one, attempts to get more data, more information and an ability to then act on it in a way that we can't right now. And so I'm suggesting this is one way to start down the road and certainly I know that the providers have never supported this concept and would not like to see it, but perhaps if we could get the backbone within the body to understand that we have to ask for some things in return that serve the public interest and perhaps some of you will join me in attempting to do this, that we can perhaps get through on this bill some information that will provide for the citizens of this state some compensation for the problems that we're having right now in health care and for the easing of the restrictions that this bill would provide. I think it's the least we can ask and certainly much more needs to be done.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Discussion on the amendment, Senator Crosby, followed by Senators Senator Korshoj and Schellpeper.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for some reason I don't have a copy of the amendment, but as I understand it, it is simply something to set up a mechanism to obtain data from the hospitals or whatever institutions are involved. Two or three things I'd just like to say about all these amendments again. In the first place, I'm all for collecting information and having that kind of thing available to people who want it, but if someone is suffering from a heart attack, gall bladder or whatever, when you're in terrible pain I doubt very much if that person or the family is going to stop at the door of the hospital and say, let me see your data first because I want to be sure and bring this person to the right place. That is not going to happen. So I think what we're talking about on certificate of need doesn't...this really isn't pertinent to what we're talking about today. Lincoln, Nebraska, has a tremendous hospital system and a wonderful medical staff at each one of those hospitals. I guess perhaps I take a different view of the medical profession than some people do. I have always had wonderful care from my doctors and nurses and all the people