

SENATOR CROSBY: Well I'd like to see a financial statement on that, I really would, I'm serious. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Before recognizing Senator Korshoj, I'm pleased to announce that Senator Elmer has 15 fifth grade students from Oxford in the north balcony with their teachers plus nine adults from the Oxford area. Please stand and be recognized. Thank you. We're glad to have you with us today. Also in our east balcony we have guests of Senator Morrissey. We have six boy scouts from Auburn with their leader Darryl Obermeyer (phonetic). Would you folks stand. Thank you. We're pleased that you could visit us. Further discussion, Senator Korshoj.

SENATOR KORSHOJ: Question.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The question has been called. Do I see five hands? Do I see five hands? Thank you. Shall debate now cease? Those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, please.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, to cease debate.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Debate ceases. Senator Wesely, would you care to close, please?

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members, again, in summary, this amendment is an attempt to try and provide data, financial, economic and morbidity data to the people of the state. The point I'm trying to make, and the information that we're trying to provide here is that we don't have a well-educated, knowledgeable consumer out there. Watchfulness of the state, I mean the salvation of the state is watchfulness in the citizen and you can't see information that isn't there. You can't watch what you aren't able to identify and right now we don't have information available to people so they can know how the hospitals are doing and what the costs are involved and that sort of thing. This amendment would also provide a state health care cost index. That is to say it would provide for us, some other states have had this idea of how the different hospitals rank and their cost and have an index for people to identify and compare and I think that would be something valuable in addressing the cost factors involved and trying to help consumers make a better choice. Senator Crosby talked a bit about how we proceed on this matter and had some concerns