

expressed about whether I was trying to say that we didn't have good quality care in Nebraska. I think we have good quality care over all in Nebraska. I think, obviously, we have excellent physicians and excellent hospitals. We are pleased with our health care providers in Nebraska and ought to be, but the problem is that if we open up and allow the new services and the new equipment and not have the sort of oversight that we need to have, we will lead down the road eventually to a time where individuals are involved that perhaps don't have the experience and background and don't have the repetition of cases, that the equipment is dispersed and having to...only so many people utilizing it, the costs go up across the State of Nebraska. We've got to understand that part of the reason we have the kind of quality care that we do have right now is in part because of certificate of need and part also in Lincoln because they have cooperated and they define different roles for different hospitals to play and they have been able to spread those around and allow people to identify what they can do best and not have everybody doing everything. And, Senator Crosby, that's exactly what I'm trying to suggest. We don't need to have every hospital in the state doing open-heart surgery, don't have to have every hospital in the state doing transplants. We don't have to have a neonatal unit in every hospital. We can share and divide and allow for access and still maintain quality and Lincoln is one example of that. And so what I'm trying to do and I have yet to hear anybody, again, who is supporting the bill come back with some suggestions, but what do we do when we weaken CON, what do we do when the health care costs keep coming up, how do we address the fundamental underlying problem of health care costs and what are we going to do about it? And I'd like to hear from some individuals about that and at this point I'll withdraw this amendment, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you, it is withdrawn. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, the next amendment I have to the bill is by Senator Wesely. Senator, I have AM1309. (Wesely amendment appears on pages 1691-92 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members, I appreciate your forbearance and your patience and I know you're not very happy spending your Thursday afternoon working through all this. At the same time I don't know any other way, because right now I