

And that goes with the pre-operative care, but also very important the post-operative care, that team of doctors and nurses that have worked together and that have the experience. During that time it was a very rough time, but I strongly feel that it is not only the surgeon, and we were told this also time and time again, but it is that entire team and that after care that is so important. Four other friends and relatives died with the same complication that my husband had. He had a five artery bypass, very serious. Four of our friends and relatives of friends died during that period. And I'm happy to tell you, of course, that Al is doing very well, thank you. But I do think very strongly that that experience, that that surgeon that we looked for, and that team of doctors and nurses who provide that care along with that surgeon were the most important part of my husband's recovery. With that, I strongly support Senator Lindsay's amendment.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Chambers, followed by Senator Labeledz.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, the best line that I was going to deliver, Senator Labeledz beat me out of it. If the Catholics can't agree..., Senator Labeledz, that was going to be the crowning comment of my statement. And I think with this Bergan Mercy versus St. Joe that is right up there now, after all these years, Oklahoma versus Nebraska, Cain versus Abel, Godzilla versus Rhodan. (Laughter.) And Senator Labeledz versus Senator Lindsay. But, at any rate, I'm going to support Senator Lindsay's amendment. And I think the discussion between Senator Lindsay and Senator Hall, on these grandfathered hospitals, is very pertinent and very appropriate. But it may not be realistic for us to think that there will be a consideration given to what they discussed. If the purpose of the standards is to set a threshold which must be reached before hospitals are allowed to engage in this activity. And there are hospitals which have not met that threshold but are allowed, for political reasons, and I guess that was to get the bill passed originally, to perform this service. It is difficult, it is difficult to support Senator Lindsay's amendment without "ungrandfathering" those other hospitals. As a step in that direction, because Senator Hall said he would offer that amendment if Senator Lindsay's is adopted, I support Senator Lindsay's amendment, not just because of what Senator Hall had suggested. But what I wish could be determined is how many open heart surgeries legitimately need to be carried out. I'm