

wondering if the competition among hospitals is similar to that among auto mechanics. Every mechanic says he's going to do a better job at less cost, and in a lot of instances none of the mechanics really give you what you need, and in some cases any mechanic can give you what you need, depending on the seriousness of the damage to be corrected. I'm not an expert on medical matters. I've never had to go to a hospital for any treatment in my life. I don't want to go to a hospital, because frankly I don't trust them. I don't trust their sanitation procedures, I don't trust the doctors in terms of their competency, I'm not confident that the kind of medication that is prescribed is what I would need in the first place and, if I really did need it, I'm not confident that that is what I would be given because of who I am. (Laugh.) But above and beyond all of that, and I wish Senator Hall were here because I'd ask him a question, maybe I can ask Senator Labeledz, well, anyway, maybe I'll ask Senator Lindsay.

PRESIDENT: Senator Lindsay, would you respond, please.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Lindsay, so the record is clear I'm going to ask two or three questions in sequence. Would the same doctors who perform the open heart surgery at St. Joe's perform it at Bergan Mercy, if your amendment fails? Is that what I understood to be the case?

SENATOR LINDSAY: Yes, from what I understand there are two doctors, and I know at least one and maybe the other, are going to perform the surgeries at both hospitals.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Have these doctors expressed an opinion on this amendment?

SENATOR LINDSAY: They haven't called me.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay.

SENATOR LINDSAY: I don't really know.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So we are not discussing the competency of those who would be performing the surgery, we're talking about the locations where it would be performed.

SENATOR LINDSAY: No, not...I am not in, any way, challenging the competency of the doctors performing them, of those two