

over in terms of a surplus to a \$300 million level, unheard of in this state, nearly triple the highest level we have had before and then with the different proposals that we have, big ticket items and in particular LB 84, spending that down so rapidly that we hit bottom. It's a roller coaster ride from the top to the bottom, it's fast, it's furious, it's scary and it can be disastrous if we're not careful. And so I, truly, think that he is making a good point and worth including in this bill. Ultimately, we have the option of amending it further, pulling the bill off of Final Reading and acting on it at that time. I also think, for all those thousands of Commonwealth, State Securities and American Savings depositors, this is their chance and hope and salvation because if you do not allow for this saving of this money, it will dash and crush their hopes and dreams of having some opportunity for relief this session. That bill, LB 356, is languishing probably unavailable for us to consider yet this session and so the only hope for those people is to save and put aside the money. And, again, it isn't necessarily the case that next session we would come back and expend that money because other opportunities may be there, other bills that are also languishing, unable to be attended to and fiscal conditions may change. But if the time is right and the money is still available, hopefully, the Commonwealth depositors would have the chance next session to have relief for their suffering over the years. So, in my estimation, this card ought to be laid on the table and ought to be acted on and ought to be adopted today and give us a chance as we work through the next few days to decide how best we want to proceed, but not adopting the amendment, not acting on the bill, I think would be a mistake. So I would ask your opposition to the bracket motion and support for the Warner amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Wehrbein, would you care to discuss the motion to bracket?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, Mr. Speaker and members, I would oppose the bracket motion and simply move on with...to consideration of adopting this amendment. I think we need to be considering this now and not putting it off. I keep thinking about...I strongly supported the 50 million the other day and this 40 million still makes a lot of sense to me. I won't go into all of what I said the other day, but I still believe that we have got to keep in mind that in this time of relatively plush resources that we ought to set aside some. I know it's easy, as I drove across Lincoln again last night, as you see the green lawns, the ample