

let LB 525 take its place and see what effect that could have on medical costs as far as the state are concerned and I think it will have a very positive effect, especially for those professionals in institutions that are serving those people qualified for Medicaid. Hopefully it will help as far as the Governor's concerns about how much money we're spending. I'd just simply like to say that I do appreciate the courtesy of the body all through the debate on 187 and, in fact, LB 225. My motion is to bracket this and the following motion for LB 187A will be to bracket both bills until January 3rd of 1990. By then we'll have a better understanding of how they should work and it will not delay, except hopefully for one year, the funding for I still think this very important aid. With that, I would move to bracket LB 187 until January 3, 1990.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Ashford, please, followed by Senator Moore.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I appreciate the bracket motion but, to me, it's a little bit of a two-edged sword. I...last summer when we started meeting on what became LB 187 it was presented to, at least those of us in the Omaha delegation who went to a couple of meetings on this bill, as being a very significant piece of health care legislation. And I know Senator Vard Johnson was extremely supportive of this and it really, as far as I can tell from talking to him, was the most important thing that...to him that was coming up in this session. And I'm a strong supporter of LB 187. I believe LB 187 is more important than LB 525 and LB 429. I think that in a sense we did, and I know people say this all the time, but I think in this case the lobby kind of got ahead of us a little bit here and kind of forced these other issues upon us when I think the real issue in the health care area, at least for my part of the state, was LB 187 and I was convinced that it also was a great help to other parts of the state. I regret, quite frankly, that we are not able to do LB 187 this year. I realize the financial constraints, but I don't think those financial constraints needed to be there if we had...if 187 had the priority that it deserved in this session. I understand the needs of the physicians in the hospitals, but I think we've really gone overboard for the needs of the physicians in the hospitals. I hope LB 429 will...is going to be good legislation and will not increase health care costs. I hope the Medicaid legislation will satisfy the concerns of the hospitals and the physicians in their...with their problems in