

we can come back next year to do. The workmen's compensation is here now, and I'd rather get something rather than nothing on that. Senator Coordsen was very, very gracious in withdrawing the bracket motion. But I know that we're all serious that, if the body, if it so chooses, does not wish to go with this amendment that we now have before us, that we will again put the priority motion and the bracket and we would all urge that it be bracketed and move on. So it's what I would guess, a last grasp, last ditch effort for the body to be able to do something on the workmen's comp side that is not that much, that we probably need to do more. Some would say we need to do less, I'm not sure. But it's certainly one that the body as a whole could...would agree to do, and I want to give the body that opportunity. With that, hopefully it will be not too much discussion and we can get to vote up or down and move along on 315. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. I have several lights still on from the previous discussion of the Coordsen motion. If you do not wish to speak to the Bernard-Stevens amendment, please remove your lights. Senator Morrissey, do you wish to speak to the Bernard-Stevens motion? Proceed.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members. We're talking unemployment benefits, folks, just got a little bit confused there for a second, unemployment benefits. The bill has taken a long time, very little of that discussion was on unemployment benefits. We all basically agreed, early on, that they were needed. Small increase, well justified, considering this situation in surrounding states and our own situation. I'd urge you to take this opportunity to get lifted out of the swamp that we ventured into when we started addressing the other issues that came up in relationship to this bill. We've got a chance to make a clean cut here, get away from all the problems and all the patchwork of drug testing and disqualification that we loaded up this bill with. Adopt this amendment, make a clean breast of things, say yes, workers, you deserve an increase in unemployment; we will look at these other things over the interim and come back with them next year, and we have a chance right now to do something we all know is needed very much, we can do it quickly, we can clear ourselves, get out of the swamp, get out of the mess, kill the monster we created and pass a bill that is very much needed. I'd urge you to support the amendment. Thank you.