

LB 187. That's why I filed this motion to at least talk about it before we vote on it. You know, it's just one of those things where, you know, Senator Lynch and others will make a good argument that, you know, the vast majority of the state's do something like this and that is a good argument to make. But the fact of the matter is can we afford this bill as a state this year? We've done some other things to pick up cost. It is something we want to do this year or last year, I mean I'm not going to say wait until next year because I won't vote for it then either quite honestly, probably. What you're talking about a large price tag, is this a priority, is it that necessary that we're going to spend \$8.6 million? It is basically, to begin with at least, assuredly, is going to go to primarily the hospitals listed on this page. If you want to spend \$8.6 million and give it to those folks, which I'm not saying they don't need it to some degree, and say no to many, many others, I think you have to look at your priorities. Yes, I'm going to urge you to vote no on LB 187. I know that Senator Lynch and others may have some things to say. I apologize to the Speaker for using time debating LB 187 on Final Reading, you know, but the reason is this is an issue that, you know, has been laying there for months and months. I think we need to spend just a few minutes talking about it before we cast our final vote. For that reason, you know, I will...I'm actually not going to return the bill to Select File but I'm certainly going to urge the body to vote no on the advancement of the bill.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. For purposes of discussion the Chair recognizes Senator Haberman followed by Senators Nelson, Lynch and Wesely.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the body, Senator Lynch, are you the leader spokesman on this bill, please?

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Lynch.

SENATOR LYNCH: Oh, I don't know if I'm a leader spokesman, but I'll try to answer questions that are reasonable and fair and honest and decent and all that.

SENATOR HABERMAN: And up front?

SENATOR LYNCH: Yeah.