

provide coverage for those who are extremely ill or sick, the costs are, in fact, then obviously extremely high, high enough that it does create terrible hardships on those who need it. I know, for example, a county engineer outstate who has a number of children, and his wife and he are healthy, and that's fine. But because...but because that one child they have has had arthritis since birth, now, by the way, is working in Lincoln and has gotten a job, is still young enough to be eligible under the folks plan, but next year will be ineligible because she is no longer a student. It will cost her and the family hundreds of dollars a month to make sure that she can receive the treatment and program that she needs simply to survive. This kind of use of the lottery money, therefore, seems to make some sense for me to help those kinds of people. It's a state wide obligation we have, it would provide the difference between people being able to stay on the program, and in some cases not, and hopefully be a hedge against the, to be completely frank, further unrealistic and unfair increases in health care costs that we witness every year. So I would ask for your support for this amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Lynch. I'll now recognize senators who wish to speak to this amendment. Senator Lindsay. Senator Crosby.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Madam President. This is a good amendment for me to speak about the lottery in general, because this particular amendment is one that I would think would have some merit. I've been in hearings and in interim study groups listening to the people who were under the CHIP program, and it is a meritorious program. And just like anything else, and especially in the insurance field these days, it, of course, is falling short. And there are those people, I will never forget one young woman who has a heart condition, 24 or 25 years old, Senator Wesley, you remember her, who cannot get the insurance she needs because of this condition. So I think from that point of view I'll probably vote for this amendment. But I voted against 24CA, and I'm going to vote, probably I'll end up voting against this bill, because in general I don't think that gambling does our society any good. I'm going to go back to...somebody mentioned 1958, when we brought in the first bingo bill. Jim Anderson was Attorney General in those days, a man from Omaha. And one of the things he did was shut down the slot machines that were running in the state, like the Legion Club, all of those, Elks and so on had the slot machines going