

believe improve the legislation. What it does is it takes the mandatory nature of the bill and turns it into an authorizing piece of legislation. Obviously, cost is a factor here and that is one of the thoughts of the committee, but we also do hopefully anticipate potentially some federal cancer money coming in, and so we do need to move forward and see what might be possible under this legislation as quickly as possible. So that is one change. In addition, although we do require this screening program to be set up, it is not required that it be provided which is thought to be the case under the bill as introduced. We set up a change in how we qualify the equipment. Under the bill as introduced, it was very specific in exactly the type of equipment and exactly what it took to qualify. Under the committee amendment, we've merely referenced the Federal Medicare Standards to qualify suppliers under those standards. We do provide for a sliding fee schedule in general with some standards in that regard, but we leave it up to the committee to implement those standards and to actually more fully implement the program as envisioned by this legislation. So with those changes, the committee felt very comfortable with the bill and advanced it, and I would ask for adoption of the committee amendments.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Is there anyone who wishes to speak to the committee amendments? Seeing none, do you have closing, Senator Wesely? We will proceed to vote on adoption of the committee amendments. All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Madam President, on adoption of the committee amendments.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Committee amendments are adopted. Would you like to open, Senator Schimek?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, Madam President, thank you, and members of the body. Senator Wesely was right in that the committee amendments actually did change the bill in some rather dramatic ways, I guess, but the focus of the bill remains the same, and I would refer you to the white copy of the bill now because that is the bill, the committee amendments are the bill. LB 256 is a bill about mammography in Nebraska women. Of all the states, mammography takes on a special meaning for the women of Nebraska, because while Nebraska women rank high in awareness of