

better to have Senator Landis go through the committee amendments and the actual impact of the bill. But my concern is this. The fundamental question remains of whether or not we have adequately addressed, through the committee amendments to this date or whether we can address through further amendments on the floor the question of the stability of these self-insurance plans that...the self-funding plans that are envisioned under LB 167. What I guess I think we need to talk about is why do we need to have the bill passed this year? What is the impetus of having to have this legislation enacted in the 1991 session? My motion is to bracket it till next year. My motion is not to kill the legislation because I think the legislation is viable in terms of the issue. My question is whether it's viable in terms of an answer to the question it raises. And more time, more attention, I think, needs to be paid to the issue and that time and attention could be better spent over the course of the interim than it has been possible to do over the course of the last few weeks. So I guess the first question is, what justification is there to pass this legislation, this important legislation, this session? What is the...the reason for that? And I am not convinced at this time that there is, in fact, adequate cause to move forward with the bill at this time. And the second question is, can we address adequately again my concern about the solvency of these proposals, and let me just outline for you my concern here. Currently, the different subdivisions have a variety of different plans that they deal with in terms of insurance for their employees. This bill would allow for some options in greater degree of self-funding. And a concern the original bill had for me was that a particularly small...there were no restrictions in terms of any size of school district or what have you being able to initiate a self-insurance fund and with a very small pool of employees paying into that plan, I think they were at great risk of insolvency. As you know, I am co-chair of a national task force in insurance insolvency. We have looked at this problem and have found that insolvencies are on the rise across the nation. These insolvencies are found in life insurance and property casualty and health insurance as well. In fact, the Blue Cross-Blue Shield plan of West Virginia, just a couple of years ago, failed, was insolvent and they're still trying to work through the question of how they move forward. So even large health insurance plans have the potential risk of insolvency. And when you have a small, self-fnded plan, then you have an even greater risk and exposure perhaps to an insolvency based on the fact that you do not have a pool in