

attention, a number of years ago, I along with a number of other people were skeptical about this problem. But the success of the CHIP program has made me realize that there is a real need for these individuals in society. They should have health care. And maybe some day there will be some national plan that will solve their problems. We have a number of different factors that are to bear for this problem. One of the problems is that so many companies are now becoming self-insuring. And as a result of that, the pools that these large health insurance companies had to draw from is nonexistent. It isn't as large as it used to be. And these self-insuring companies don't contribute to this CHIP program. It relies exclusively upon these private insurance companies. But getting back to the point, when we originally passed this bill in '86, the idea was use of General Fund money. And part of the idea behind it was that...that individuals should be taken care of. And Senator Landis is right, he, along with other members of the Banking Committee, share a real frustration with this problem. And at that hearing we addressed, we heard a lot of comments from the CHIP...individuals that are receiving these CHIP programs. But I'll tell you, if it hadn't been for the foresight of Senator Wesely in dealing with this problem, we would not have had the problem. And I guess when we're looking at what is the best way to solve this particular dilemma that we're being faced with, I'm tending to side with the original individual that foresaw these problems and saw that the bill was enacted. So, I would urge the body to adopt this amendment onto the committee amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR WARNER PRESIDING

SENATOR WARNER: Motion pending is the adoption of the Abboud amendment. Those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Have you all voted? Clerk, record. Requires a simple majority of those voting.

CLERK: 17 ayes, 5 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the Abboud-Lindsay amendment.

SENATOR WARNER: The amendment is adopted. Are there further amendments to the committee amendments pending?

CLERK: Nothing further pending to the committee amendments, Mr. President.