

SENATOR WARNER: Motion...Senator Landis, would you wish to move the adoption of the committee amendments, as amended.

SENATOR LANDIS: I so move.

SENATOR WARNER: Is there further discussion? Seeing no lights, those in favor of adoption of the committee amendments, as amended, vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Senator Abboud. Clerk, record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 5 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the committee amendments.

SENATOR WARNER: Motion is carried, and the amendment is adopted. Are there further mot...further....Senator Wesely, do you wish to open on the bill?

SENATOR WESELY: Are there any other amendments?

SENATOR WARNER: Are there further amendments? No further amendments on the desk. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: The committee amendments become the bill, so I don't know if I...Again, all that's left now in the bill is a cap on insurance companies so that when their premiums that they pay in, the premium taxes they pay in, when their assessments on CHIP become greater than that, they will not be required to pay additional above their premium tax to cover those assessments. And, instead, the assessments will be spread among the other insurance companies, and their premium taxes will be used for that. And so there is no liability on the part of insurance companies, above their premium taxes. That's what the bill accomplishes at this point.

SENATOR WARNER: Seeing no further lights, Senator Wesely, do you wish to close?

SENATOR WESELY: Yes. In closing, that is...that's what we're left with on the bill. And again, I want to make it very clear that I've talked to various senators involved with this, and to the policyholders and insurance companies. We do look for continued discussion and negotiation with the hope of some further amendments on Select File that will accommodate some additional concerns, that hopefully can be consensus agreed to amendments. And toward that end, we'll be working over the next