

section to change the definitions of veterans to include veterans of the Lebanese or the incursion at Lebanon, the incursion into Granada and the incursion into Panama. I would urge the adoption of the amendment.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Mr. President, members, Senator Landis has described the amendment. I rise in support of it. We did sit down and negotiate with the CHIP policyholders and with the insurance companies. There was, of course, some strong feeling but we were able to reach an agreement that I think is reasonable to both sides. The insurance companies are protected from having a liability, in some cases, beyond their premium tax and I think in fairness we needed to put a cap in place. In fairness of the policyholders, that cap ought to occur when there is some reasonable basis to continue funding of the program which is uncertain in about two or three years from now. So with the cap ending in 1995 we hope to, by then, have clarified the funding situation for the CHIP program and readdress that issue. Again, I commend Blue Cross-Blue Shield in particular for having negotiated in good faith and I also commend the policyholders for being reasonable in their demands on this proposal. Both sides, I think, have come to a reasonable compromise. In addition, Senator Kristensen did come with a particular problem, a case of an individual who lost their insurance coverage and that, of course, the six-month waiting period that we have in place was to prevent dumping. We didn't envision a situation where an insurance company pulls out of the state, that goes insolvent or an employer completely stops coverage for all of their employees. What we were looking at was an employer peeling off one or two employees and putting them under the CHIP plan to save money and that, of course, is under the term dumping and we decided that wasn't proper and that's why we put the six-month waiting period. Senator Kristensen's amendment, I think, addresses that and, obviously, the veterans affairs amendment also has valid reasons to be included and, with that, I'd rise in support of the amendment.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Kristensen.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I, first of all, want to thank Senator Landis and Senator Wesely for their work and I think Senator Lynch also was included in this amendment. I appreciate their cooperation. I