

disappointed people if we don't deal with this issue but then there will be a lot of disappointed people this session. We just haven't had the chance to deal with any number of issues and it's been very frustrating, I know, for all of us. I hope Senator Wickersham will consider the broader situation here and, in fact, the reason all of this was pulled together was rather than having all of these taken up individually we thought there was enough commonality and support and lack of opposition here that we could move quickly and deal with the issue. If that's not going to be the case, then we're not going to proceed with it. We can't lose the main bill. We can't have it bracketed and I will certainly consider dropping all amendments to it in order to save the rest of the bill. I will listen to further debate if there is any and consider what we ought to do.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I agree wholeheartedly with Senator Wickersham. As a matter of fact, earlier probably a fit of anger that I should not have experienced, I had made request that all of these be divided out to be considered separately. It is unfair and I know, I know, yesterday there was an Education bill that took a lot of time. And I was criticized just a few moments ago by Senator Wesely because that stuff wasn't all worked out. That was not my bill. That actually happened to be Senator Lamb's personal priority bill. And we do, as I understand in here, give preference to individual senator's priority bills. I had tried to discourage people from offering amendments on that bill. I wish it had not taken so long. It took some time. But, for this, on the third to the last day of the session when we have critical issues of the state in front of us, to leapfrog in front of other measures, other measures that are critical to the state, and these aren't, as far as I can see. These are not the sort of things that I've had people calling my office on, unless it's in opposition to some of these things. I've had opposition phone calls to the LB 1278, as an example. There's a change of billing, who gets to bill under Medicare? I don't know. That, traditionally, has been controversial sort of issue. Senator Wesely says it's all worked out. I don't know that it is. We're dealing with more exclusions from tax limitations as an amendment to this bill on the third to the last day of the session. We have stuff that clearly is not germane to a health issue. These were bills that were heard in Government Committee. Senator Wesely didn't tell you that, points seven