

April 9, 1992

LB 835A, 1019

members of this Legislature but every single one of us stayed here, we entered into the debate in a good spirit, in a friendly spirit of fair play and now we come down to the 58th day of the Legislature and all of a sudden some of us who have bills that are important to our constituency are being asked to withdraw those bills in preference to somebody who sits behind us. I resent that. I resent that very, very much. And every person who had a bill, who had...who was part of that amendment that Senator Wesely offered also should be terrifically offended. I don't think it's fair play. We're going to go right down the list after we get done here, we'll go back to LB 835A where we have amendment after amendment, where we have bills, expensive bills put into that appropriations bill and we're going to be asked to spend hours on that particular issue. I will not do it. I will continue putting up bracket motions as we go down the pike here because I think this is unfair. If we're not going to be able to hear our bills, our amendments, the things that are meaningful to our constituents, then I think, in the spirit of fairness, everybody else should be withdrawing their amendments also. I encourage all of you to respect the fact that I'm bracketing this because of that fairness issue. Please support the bracket motion.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Byars. Senator Hall, on the bracket motion.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members, I rise to oppose the bracket motion but I support the concept that Senator Byars professed. That's why I ran this amendment twofold. One, it's an extremely important amendment to this state in terms of the whole issue of medical costs and how we are going to pay for them over the next biennium. It is scary, when you sit down and examine the numbers, look at the amount of money that we are facing and look at the whole issue of health care in a state like Nebraska, with a million and a half population. It is scary to examine that and wonder how we are going to deal with it, let alone the issue on a national level. It's frightening. But before us right now is a bracket motion based on whether or not we're going to take up amendments to bills. And I intend to take up amendments to bills as they're filed. I don't believe the Wesely amendment was an inappropriate amendment. Pieces of it, yeah, were controversial. Pieces of it, I had my name on. My priority bill is gone for the year. It's on General File. It may have been one of those amendments to come up later in the day. It probably will not see the light of day and that's fine,