

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Wesely. You've heard the opening on LB 172. Senator Lindsay, your light is next.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Thank you, Mr. President and members. First off, just to state this is an issue that I've a little bit of familiarity with because in the past I used to do some personal injury work where this issue would come up. I have no interest in it now, no vested interest in it now because I don't do that type of work anymore, but I would like to make the point that what we are dealing with is something where there will be some opposition, I would think you'll find some from trial attorneys, but it is interesting because if you will look at the language of the bill, who is the first person that is going to get paid? That is the trial attorneys. The trial attorney is going to get taken care of, so they've got no interest, vested interest in this either. This is being sold as a situation where we are going to take this money away that the lawyers would get otherwise and give it to the hospitals. We will be taking the money away from injured people giving it to the hospitals, but rather than getting into that now, and I've got a stack of amendments that I have not filed, and before doing so, I would ask a couple of questions of Senator Wesely, if I could.

SENATOR HALL: Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Yes.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Senator Wesely, let me ask you, do you think that this bill could be improved in some areas?

SENATOR WESELY: I think there would be grounds for some amendments, yes.

SENATOR LINDSAY: And let me ask if you'd be willing to commit to looking at some amendments between now and Select File, sitting down and looking to see if there is some that might be workable types of amendments?

SENATOR WESELY: I'd be willing to discuss that with you, and I know Senator Matzke has some amendments as well.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Okay, and if, rather than, sitting down and talking about it, rather than eating up the time here when you haven't had a chance to go through these amendments, if you