

until after the hospital gets paid, so they are a liability to the... to the injured person, very clearly a liability to the injured person. What this amendment would do is simply says when the hospital or doctor, whoever the lienholder is, provides records or provides any of the other things that are mentioned, interrogatories, depositions, et cetera, expert medical testimony, that they cannot charge an unreasonable amount and the reason for that is that there are instances, and I just talked to an attorney who just paid five dollars a page for copies of medical records and that's... that... I think there'd be a question as to whether that's a reasonable charge. All we're saying is that... all this amendment would say is that this should not be a profit center for the hospital; that they're going to make their money because they're going to be fully reimbursed or they're going to get reimbursed under the lien, they don't need to be trying to make it up on the records, which has... which has been... which there's a concern about whether that's been done. It's my understanding and I think Senator Wesely will speak to that and I'll be yielding him some time, but it's my understanding that the Hospital Association has signed off on this, that the proponents of the bill have signed off on this. With that, I would be happy to try to answer any questions. I would urge his adoption of the amendment and I would yield the balance of my time, if he wants it, to Senator Wesely.

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Will?

SENATOR LINDSAY: Senator Wesely.

SENATOR CROSBY: Oh, I'm sorry, Senator Wesely. Beg your pardon.

SENATOR WESELY: Where there's a will there's a Wesely. Oh, I'm sorry. (Laugh)

SENATOR CROSBY: You have about seven minutes, Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Oh, all right. Thank you. Senator Lindsay's right. We have worked with him over the course of the last few days and weeks and tried to reach a compromise. There are other things we thought we might compromise on and we weren't able to, but we are in agreement with this amendment. Again, although we just got through discussing "reasonable" versus "usual and customary" and the area that we're talking about here there