

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. I apologize if I hadn't made that clear, but that, that is, in fact, what, what that amendment would do. And the False Medicaid Claims Act will help the Department of Social Services crack down on some abuse of the Medicaid program. And I would ask for adoption of this amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: The...you've heard the closing, the question is, shall the Wesely amendment be adopted? All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of Senator Wesely's amendment.

SPEAKER WITHEM: The amendment is adopted. Anything further?

CLERK: I'm back to the amendment as proposed by Senator Schimek. (See AM3560 on page 1046 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Wesely, are you going to handle the amendment?

SENATOR WESELY: Actually, I guess I am, Mr. Speaker. Senator Schimek is ill today and has asked me to offer this amendment. It is LB 954, which was a bill to adopt the Hospice Licensure Act. It was advanced by the committee unanimously. It's on consent calendar. What it essentially does is recognize hospice programs and license them. The way it was amended by the committee, it is essentially a protection of the terminology of hospice. Evidently there were some individuals who were using the term hospice and did not have any particular standards they had to meet. And the feeling was that there could be some misconceptions about individuals, about the quality of care they would receive. So the Department of Health had originally some concerns and worked with the introducer, Senator Schimek, and the supporters and the amended version of the bill that was advanced by committee was with the support of, I believe, the Department of Health. It does provide for a fee for licensure between 100 and 250 dollars to cover the expenses, the licensure process. And with that, I would ask for adoption of the amendment.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Now, the matter now pending is the Schimek