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body. I rise to support the Bromm amendment, but when I read through the amendment there's something I would like to add to this Senator Bromm, not by amendment but by developing a record here on the floor. I learned a long time ago in the issue of property tax that the problem isn't the valuation, the problem isn't the tax rate or anything of that sort. It's the money that it takes to operate the services of government that we have decided the people need. Now, what does that have to do with...with the state health plan? I think, as a private payer of my own health plan and watching how that has grown up over the years, you know, I cited the figure this morning to you of how few people in production agriculture had self-employed health plans. They depended on off-farm employment and they...the employer financed or partially financed health plan to cover their family because they could not at any...any greater period of time afford to do that themselves. In order for this program to have any chance of success I think, Senator Bromm, that it's important that this task force, and this is what I wanted to put into the record, that this task force look at what we in government are doing to drive up the cost of health care on the other side of the equation. I think we'll find that our costs are, in fact, an inescapable part of doing business as an employer. But anecdotally and, as Senator Bromm knows, I've been involved in county health care and that sort of thing for a long, long time, but I have noticed in our community the larger and larger number of employees, in order to comply with all of the regulations, not all of which come from the state, but all of the regulations that are brought to bear upon the health care systems in the state of Nebraska. All of the other requirements that we have seen fit to mandate in the interest of increased quality has a cost to it. And I would think that or would hope that this task force, in their infinite wisdom, would also take a look at what is driving up the cost of health insurance for all people, which would be the same factor, as well as looking at the kind of health care program that government in Nebraska is providing for their citizens. With that, I still support, though, the Bromm amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Coordsen. Senator Wehrbein, on the Bromm amendment. Senator Wehrbein. Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, Madam President, members of the body,