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SPEAKER BROMM: Senator Brashear, you're recognized to open on your amendment to the committee amendments.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, the amendment to the committee amendment specifies that the services provided at such free clinics are to be the type of medical services that are eligible for reimbursement under the Medicaid program. Such a qualification is to ensure that the Legislature is being certain that the standard, generally accepted, medical services are the only ones we're dealing with, which will be provided at the free clinics and for which immunity would apply. This amendment is not intended to mean that the patients who receive free care at such clinics need to be eligible to receive Medicaid benefits. Rather, the amendment is meant to limit the medical services for which we are encouraging medical professionals to volunteer their time and their ability in order to provide service on a volunteer basis. It is possible to raise questions about any number of medical services that a medical professional may choose to provide on a volunteer basis, and it is desirable not to revisit all such issues in the context of the immunity provided in the bill. Instead of opening a new debate, this amendment would simply incorporate the public policy decisions already agreed upon as part of the medical assistance program commonly known as Medicaid. Immunity would be provided for services eligible for Medicaid reimbursement, and would not be provided for services not within the scope and definition of the Medicaid program. This approach is consistent with the goals of the immunity provision. Although it may restrict some of the services for which the immunity is made available, it is consistent with this body's intention to use the grant of immunity, which is the granting of a privilege, not the recognition of a right, as an instrument of our public policy. By granting the immunity only for services which the state will reimburse under Medicaid, we will target the immunity where it will serve our public policy goals, and I urge your adoption of the amendment to the committee amendments. Thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Brashear. We've had the