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anybody would want to leave Mississippi.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: I know the people in Mississippi, and I've met with many of them, and certainly there are two sides to that particular issue. Mississippi would not be held up as a paragon of many things in...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Right.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: ...connection with state government.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Now you said that doctors were leaving in droves. Had any of them actually uprooted their practices and moved them someplace else? Or were they threatening to do so?

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: In my understanding, many of them had started to leave. I don't know whether physically they actually did. But I do know that in order to quell that, the Legislature met, with the understanding that if something wasn't addressed in that regard, that they were going to further go down a bad path on availability of medical service. And they did respond. I know the chambers of commerce went and said, if you don't do something about this, we're going to lose the available physicians. And that's happened in Florida, certainly, where physicians have quit practicing ob-gyn practice. Because of the excessive medical caps they've moved to different locations.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Pederson, let's say that Nebraska had no cap, but the recovery on malpractice claims that go to litigation are lower than, say, Iowa. And Iowa has a cap, but the amount of premiums paid in Iowa with the cap are higher than paid in Nebraska with the cap. That's to keep the comparison the same. You remove the cap in Nebraska, but the cap is not removed in Iowa. If all things are taken into consideration, the amount of the payouts, I believe, will be taken into consideration too. And these companies may be able to still realize an acceptable level of profit by insuring physicians in Nebraska, even without a cap, based on the relatively low payout on claims. Is that a possibility?

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: That is a possibility. I think