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the rest of the uninsured in the state, we don't talk about employer involvement, we don't talk about the insurance industry involvement? How do we do that? We can't. We can't do it in a vacuum. And I implore you...

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: One minute.

SENATOR BYARS: ...I feel bad standing up being opposed to doing a study, that I feel bad about that. Senator Erdman is really I think has...I think truly wants to do the right thing, but I'm scared to death in trying to do the right thing we're going to do the wrong thing, and I'm not sure how much control we have over it, if any at all. Thank you very much, Lieutenant Governor.

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Senator Byars. Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I probably am going to ramble a little bit because I have mixed thoughts on this, just as Senator Byars does. I do applaud Senator Erdman for bringing this forward and I think the discussion on this, this morning, is important. I am concerned. I've long been, I guess, somewhat cynical that there really is no good answers on Medicaid, Medicare, or our health insurance problems as we head forward, except for an understanding with...among us, and that includes all citizens of this state and the citizens of this country. We've got more healthcare than we can afford to pay for, and until we come to the point that we understand that and are going to make some adjustments, and I honestly don't know what those are, we're going to simply spin our wheels as we talk about it. One of my real frustrations in long-term nursing...in the nursing homes and in hospitals is that the private pays that are continuing to pay their own way, so to speak, are simply subsidizing those that can't afford to. So we hold the line on provider rates, we reduce the costs that we reimburse, and so the private pays, whether in a nursing home or whether in a hospital, pay more. And so we in government, as we reduce those rates or however it's done, we simply have the privates subsidizing those that can't afford to, so we really haven't solved the problem. And Senator Byars has made reference to that. That's my concern.