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SENATOR ERDMAN: No, that's fine.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Erdman. Further discussion on AM1249. Senator Jensen.

SENATOR JENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I might just add, I have a floor amendment I hope that we can amend onto this amendment that just simply clears up a little bit of the language that we had with Senator Flood, in that we were looking at perhaps...well, actually, how best can we maximize Medicaid, and how can we do that? Should we go to a consultant...bring a consultant in? And we talked about that as this bill was on General File. Should we contract with that firm? Should we do it internally? There certainly will be a great deal of discussion between the individuals working on this bill and CMS in Kansas City, and to see how best that we can expand the Medicaid coverage into our state. It's very, very important. You probably have seen a couple of the articles, the editorial in the World-Herald on Sunday, also talking about the Medicaid issue and what that total Medicaid issue means to the state of Nebraska, and if we continue down this road without at least looking at Medicaid, at least looking at education and how are we to fund state government from this time on. Again, looking...if we don't do anything, we have a specific problem in the years 2014 and thereafter. So we have introduced the amendment at this point in time, and I would just ask your consideration. First of all, I applaud Senator Erdman for working with Senator Byars and Senator Beutler in coming up with, I think, is a very good solution to the things that were addressed on General File, and I would urge adoption of AM1249, and with that, I'll return the rest of my time back to the Chair.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Jensen. (Doctor of the day introduced.) On with discussion. Senator Erdman.

SENATOR ERDMAN: Mr. President, am I recognized to close, or are you recognizing me to speak?

SENATOR CUDABACK: You are not recognized to close, no, Senator.