

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

March 21, 2000 LB 1217

when you start talking about anything increasing 15, 16, 17, 20 percent per year, you're putting people out of the market entirely and then we have more people going bare, which we do have in Nebraska. I believe we went from about 10.5 the number of individuals who are going without any health insurance, now up to about 11.2. So we're having an increase and every time we do mandate more coverage, any time we do add more to that policy, costs go up. I really endorse what Senator Coordsen was talking about as to look at what is driving those costs up. That's...hopefully that could be part of this study also. So, with that, I'll return the rest of my time back to the Chair, other than I will support Senator Bromm's amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Jensen. Senator Kristensen, on the Bromm amendment. He waives off. Senator Bromm.

SENATOR BROMM: Am I the last light, Senator Crosby?

SENATOR CROSBY: Yes, you are.

SENATOR BROMM: I think I'll go ahead and close, if that's permissible.

SENATOR CROSBY: All right, you're recognized to close on your amendment.

SENATOR BROMM: And let me, first of all, address Senator Landis' questions, which are fair questions. Why...why link these different people together, some of whom we may not have any control over, such as the University of Nebraska health insurance program? The answer is, the common link is these are all people who are...who are receiving some help on their health insurance, if not the entire payment, by taxpayer dollars. We have a common interest in making sure that we look at all the options on these programs. The University of Nebraska are those who we maybe can't have any direct control over, came in and testified in support of this...of this study. They want to share information. They want to look for common solutions. I see no reason why...why they shouldn't be part of the mix and the discussion, and same way with League of Municipalities, same way with county government and so on and so forth. Why a task force? I guess I thought about just introducing an interim