

outlay and I am completely against Senator Wesely's amendment. I think we ought to take this structure as they have offered it at one dollar a year for a five year period with a hundred year option and I think we would be absolutely derelict in our duty if we didn't take this if you want a veterans home in a county that has about 53% of the veterans today. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, I rise to oppose Senator Wesely's amendment. Senator Wesely, have you been up there and gone through the facilities? Well, I am disappointed that you haven't. No, he has not, as I understand the nod of his head, he has not examined the premise and some of us did go up last Saturday and spent several hours looking it through. This building that we are talking about that houses the boiler and part of the air conditioning unit and part of the cooler portion of the air conditioning unit is outside this building, is a brick building as I recall with tile roof on it and if it requires a new boiler, this is a far cry from not accepting a building. Gee, a boiler is not a great big deal even though it supplies the energy for a quite large building. This is a good building that we are talking about here and I would certainly object to cutting this out of the amendment. I wish to speak to the bill later but I do oppose Senator Wesely's amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Fitzgerald.

SENATOR FITZGERALD: I'm standing up to oppose this amendment. I mean I have heard some asinine amendments since I have been here for six years but I think this takes the cake. Now let me tell you something here. A new home that we originally had in this bill, the project cost of constructing a new three hundred and fifty bed veterans home is as follows: four hundred square feet per bed times \$87.50 per square foot and each bed would have cost \$35,000. We are talking about a \$12,700,000 building and we are getting a building that is just as good and it has got a little home life, I mean this is what I have got to stress, then we are getting this building here for a dollar a year, five year option and I just can't see the reasoning that people would not accept this building here because the building is in wonderful condition and we are talking about a boiler. You know the County Commissioners are giving this. They are not Santa Claus up there. Some of these young fellows