

SENATOR HIGGINS: ...something that you ought to read before you think about this bill. What about the lobbyists for these people that want to have their scope of practice broadened or who want to be licensed and regulated? Please read that handout because it is going to tell you something about 407. I am sorry that I have to oppose my good friend Senator Marsh on this amendment, but to vote for this amendment to me would mean the same as voting for the bill. I don't think it deserves any kind of a trial because it is designed to help hospitals, doctors, nursing homes, everybody that is making the biggest bucks there are on health care and the ones that are sticking it to the taxpayers so they can do it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: May I please ask those under the north balcony to hold their conversation down a little bit. Thank you. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I, too, must speak against Senator Marsh's amendment. It is designed to make the bill more palatable. I don't know whether Senator Marsh would support the bill or not, so when I say it would make the bill more palatable, I mean to people who may be unsure of how to vote on this bill thinking that a provision like this would really create a period of evaluation during which sincere study and scrutiny would be made of how the system would operate. Such is not designed to be the case. Once this bill would be enacted into law, the Legislature will have abdicated its responsibility. It will have turned it over to some self-interested groups who have currently vested interest in the existing state of affairs and they would not be impacted on at all by this bill. My good friend, Senator Smith, who can look so wide-eyed and innocent, and I believe she is, must be informed. I am talking about legislative matters when I make this next statement, I must take away her innocence. If you look on page 2 in line 10 and line 12, you will see that any regulatory entity, regulatory entity created prior to January 1, 1985 will not be touched by this bill, and although other legislation that may be proposed with reference to any new health care group will be touched by this bill, no technical amendments referring to laws pertaining to existing entities will be touched by this