

SENATOR HABERMAN: Do you have some other lights on, Mr. President?

PRESIDENT: Yes, I do.

SENATOR HABERMAN: All right, I'll wait.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Wesely. The motion is Senator DeCamp's amendment to the committee amendments.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. President, members, I would oppose the DeCamp amendment, then ask you all to oppose it at this time. Clearly what Senator DeCamp would do is cut back from 20.5 to \$8.5 million the amount that would be allotted to the Commonwealth depositors in settlement of the claim. This would virtually kill the bill. That's what you're talking about when you cut out the \$12 million miscellaneous claim. As you probably read the Commonwealth depositors have been apprised of the situation. They are vehemently against any sort of settlement that would preclude any chance to go to court if only \$8.5 million is allotted through this Legislature in terms of a claim. The only figure that they find agreeable is a \$20.5 million figure which this body on January 30 approved through a resolution that 29 of you voted for and I think the intent is clear that we were going to pursue a \$20.5 million settlement. We took you at your word. We went back and we've worked now for three or four months to come up with the details of the settlement plan that this Legislature said in January was their intent to support and now we're back to you with a \$20.5 million claim settlement proposal that's exactly along the lines that we talked about back in January. We took you at your word. We're going to ask you to keep your word because this is exactly the way we've gone forward from that point when that resolution was adopted and Senator DeCamp was one of those people that supported that resolution and has been a supporter of trying to deal with the problem. But if you support now his amendment to cut back that figure from 20.5 to 8.5 million, you virtually kill the bill. The depositors are not going to be able to live with that sort of a settlement. Now remember what we're saying here in terms of a settlement is this amount of money will be allotted in terms of a claim and that is going to be it. No other claims will be allowed. No other court action will be allowed. It will end the matter. The