

strong or overwhelming and you bring in the votes. Now one of the things I would think Senator Vard Johnson would be concerned about would be this little fact which you all should be aware of. We just are about to change the whole premium tax structure. We are going to retain basically about the same amount of revenue, increase here, decrease there. Do you know that every time somebody goes to self-insurance they don't have to pay premium tax? They bypass it. They are outside the law. That is right. So every time you put another 500 or 1,000 or 10,000 over into self-insurance because you have made any other form of insurance too costly, you have lost that premium tax. That is right, all those self-insureds don't have to pay premium tax. Now, again, I think that is pretty much federal and I think Vard Johnson is completely correct when he says we should take Hal Daub's tail and shake it up and snip it and maybe pass a resolution that directs some of those people that deal with the self-insured thing. Now as to his other arguments, Senator Johnson arguments that you are giving away Medicare, you are giving away this, you are giving away that. You are not giving away one single one of those things. They all exist now. They are in law now. And for anybody to change any one of them they would have to walk in here with 25 or probably 30 votes in the case of a veto. You would have to have 25 votes to take one of them out. That can be done with or without passage of this law. So it doesn't change that one single bit. I would urge you to adopt the amendment. I think...are we still on the amendment? And then advance the bill.

SENATOR CARSTEN PRESIDING

SENATOR CARSTEN: Senator Marsh on the amendment.

SENATOR MARSH: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature,, I am having some real problems with LB 895. Sort of a sleeper, isn't it? And now it is up here on Select File. It will make a tremendous difference in our state and there do not seem to be very many of us who are trying to express a concern. I will not vote for 895. I will not vote for the amendment because I think it is bad legislation with or without the amendment. I am terribly concerned that this body is about to let this major piece of legislation go through. The least we could do is send it back to committee if you adopt the amendment.