

field even, like Senator Landis so often states. If the consumer price index drops, why then that will be reflected also. But you see how basically unfair it is, number one, to put a cap on, isn't it Senator DeCamp? It's unfair to put a cap on, but most of all it is ridiculously unfair not to recognize that because of inflation these caps are going to lose value and they are going to lose value and they are going to lose value. And if Senator Scofield's niece becomes totally blind at age 3 because of negligence on the part of an employee of the City of Lincoln, is it really fair to say that she is only going to be able to get a million dollars or 20 years from now she is only going to be able to get a quarter of a million dollars in 1986 dollars? That's not fair. Senator Chambers is right. If you mean a million dollars, let's say a million dollars. Let's put a cost of living increase into this bill. There is nothing wrong with that. These aren't Social Security benefits. These aren't Medicaid benefits. These aren't taxpayers' money that are being paid out. We're just saying, if we mean a million dollars, let's say a million dollars and let's have that built into the statutes so we're not going to ask some future Legislature 20 years from now responding to a problem where there should have been a million dollar recovery, but there is only a quarter of a million dollars, to come in after the fact to make that correction. It's a "let's keep the bill honest" amendment and I really think you ought to adopt it. I think it makes sense. I'd ask the adoption of the amendment.

SENATOR LAMB: The motion is the adoption of the Hoagland amendment to the Hannibal amendment. Those in support vote aye, those opposed vote nay, and since we're on General File it's a simple majority. Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 6 ayes, 21 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the amendment.

SENATOR LAMB: The amendment is not adopted. Do you have anything else on the bill, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: We're back to Senator Hannibal's amendment, Mr. President.

SENATOR LAMB: Senator Hannibal, to address his amendment.