

SENATOR GOODRICH: Without having the time to apply the committee amendment to the bill and see what the language just before and just after your insertions and strikes and stuff like that, if you want a new license, renew your license in a nursing home, you must have, it looks like it says shall have at least 10 percent of the beds?

SENATOR WITHEM: That is what the committee amendments say. We are basically gutting the committee...gutting the bill, gutting the committee amendments and just putting in language that says after an individual has already been in a nursing home and they spend down their private resources and go on Medicaid, that that can't be an excuse for the nursing home to kick them out. We're not forcing, no longer will we force any nursing home to set aside any percentage of beds for Medicaid or force them to participate in the program of accepting new Medicaid people.

SENATOR GOODRICH: In other words, in order to renew your license you don't have to have 10 percent of the beds or whatever percentage you want to use available and held back for indigent or...

SENATOR WITHEM: If the majority of those voting vote to support this amendment to the committee amendments, that will be the case.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Then we're okay. Okay, thanks.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Withem, would you like to close on your amendment?

SENATOR WITHEM: Merely urge you to adopt the amendment to the committee amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The question is the adoption of the amendment to the committee amendments. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 9 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of Senator Withem's amendment to the committee amendments.

SPEAKER NICHOL: It is adopted. Now to the committee amendments. Senator Wesely.