

floating maximums, the floating minimums. And I think it would be a serious mistake for us, at this point,...

SENATOR CARSTEN: Forty-five seconds.

SENATOR BARRETT: ...to join the ranks of the other states. I think those states, at least in my humble opinion, made a mistake then, and I think we can learn a lesson from their example and not fall into that same trap right now. I support the motion to indefinitely postpone LB 958 and I would ask others to join with me in voting yes. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Thank you, Senator Barrett. Senator Higgins, you are next. But if I may, before you start, the Chair is pleased to announce, on behalf of Senator Nelson this morning, there are 40 members of the Nebraska WIFE organization, Women Involved in Farm Economics in the north balcony, accompanied by their state president. Would you rise so that we may recognize you and welcome you to the Unicameral and hope that you enjoy your morning. Senator Higgins, please.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Mr. President. Senator DeCamp and Senator Hefner pointed out the fact that under our workmen's compensation laws anyone injured on the job has their choice of doctors and I say, thank God for that because I am going to give you an actual experience under Reaganomics when they crack down on Medicare and those who are receiving disability benefits had to go to those doctors whom the government appointed. I knew a man who was getting disability, he was 56 years old, under Medicare. He had deterioration of the spine. He had tuberculosis in both lungs and he had pancreatitis and his vision was failing and the Veterans Hospital doctors were the ones that diagnosed him that way, but Medicare one day called him in and said, we want you to go to another doctor. And as a result of going to Mr. Reagan's doctor, the man was taken off of total disability even though he couldn't work, couldn't drive a car, had TB in both lungs and deterioration of the spine. It was over a year and three months before he was ever able to get those benefits back. He died at the age of 58. I know the case very well because he was my brother. So much for picking government doctors to tell you whether or not you are eligible for total disability. Thank God we do allow people to go to their own doctors, but the irony of it