

SENATOR NELSON: Madam President, even though the reasoning behind Senator Lynch's amendment is good, all of us will have maybe a different opinion, I have one, I've never been able to get any thing done on vocational education in the state. I don't know. And everyone will have their own...their own opinion. I know Senator Withem, pointing out to us the, well literally dozens of very, very good education programs that are not funded. Who is to say which one is better, or which one is worse. But I think that when we start at this point saying designated for either the Commonwealth, or the CHIP program, the insurance industry, education, water legislation and so on, I think that we're jumping the gun on it. And even though the amendment is good, and the reasoning, the CHIP program, you couldn't ask for probably a better needed program than that. But at this point I cannot support it. I did not necessarily intend to talk to this one amendment, particularly I was gone on LB 849 altogether, but I guess that will suffice for the time being. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Nelson. Senator Lamb. Question has been called. Are there sufficient seconds? Okay. We will now vote on the motion to call the question. All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Madam President.

PRESIDENT MOUL: We have ceased debate. Senator Lynch, would you like to close.

SENATOR LYNCH: Thank you, Madam President, members. Only to remind you what this does is simply provide a chance, maybe next year, and maybe the year after that, and even in following years, for people to participate in this comprehensive pool. The folks that need it are those who are in the most need, and the folks that need it are those that, in fact, can get in no other kind of a health insurance program. These are people within families and individuals. I think, if we're going to have this kind of source of funds for the state, it's not inappropriate for us to make some determinations as to the highest priority and the best use and need for those monies, and to be completely frank I can think of no other need that is more important than this. So I would encourage your support, and hope you support the amendment.