

SENATOR NELSON: Madam Speaker, I, too, resist the bracket motion. And there is one group that particularly is...would be affected and that is Central Community College. They have been self-funding since 1986. If this bill were to be bracketed until January 1st of next year, this would really throw them in a turmoil. Their savings have been approximately \$200,000 a year or \$1 million in the last four years. As you all know, the community college, along with the other subdivisions, are under the lid proposal. How are they going to pick up that additional \$200,000? That's a tremendous saving. They're saving about 50 percent on the dollar. The City of Norfolk, they are partially self-funded. They have found out that their insurance increased, from '86 to '87, only 15 percent. Now you stop and think, how much has your health insurance coverage increased? We're simply...we're simply not facing reality today. These subdivisions...and I know and I certainly would not want anyone to go unprotected, but there are secondary insurance on this. The community college at home, they have up to now...it was 750,000, they have had studies done continually every three months. They have a three months' reserve. Their deductibles...their savings is tremendously and I don't know why other subdivisions would not find the same thing. And, sure, it's fine to say we have a nice Cadillac plan, doesn't cost me a dime, I get dental insurance, I have long-term care insurance and I have this and this at the expense of other taxpayers or the expense of other employees in subdivisions and so on. That's simply not fair and this needs to be addressed today and needs to be discussed. And if 50 cents on the dollar can be saved on health insurance coverage, we all like to drive Cadillacs but we sometimes maybe have to face reality. And so we do need to discuss this. And Senator Landis, I think, can ably discuss the committee amendments and I know there were problems with it to begin with but I think most of those have been worked out. And if this is bracketed until January 1st, it will cost my community college the loss of their insurance, as they presently have it. So, naturally, I won't say anything more at this point until we get beyond this unusual bracket before we even get started, but I will be speaking on it later. And if...I guess Senator Kristensen doesn't want any more of my time, so I certainly oppose the bracket motion at this time because you can read on the back of your fiscal note, Central Community College would be in deep, deep trouble.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Nelson. Before we proceed, I would like to make some introductions to the Legislature. Our