

this issue and I know we're talking about the amendment that Senator Lindsay has brought about the safety committees. I would just say, I'm not sure the safety committees are really that important at all. It seems to me that it's somewhat superfluous to the central core idea of the bill and that is to create a managed care system for workmen's compensation but at the same time preserve, to preserve fairness and equity so that injured employees have a right to have recourse. And I know I was talking to Senator Abboud about this bill about a month ago and he asked me what I thought. And I said I thought the independent medical examiner was an excellent idea, that we were going to get people into the system and get them treated faster, have them be more productive, get them back into the system and also, as a lawyer that handles these cases, admit that it's going to decrease the amount of litigation because people are going to...disputes are going to be resolved earlier, exactly what Senator Landis wants and it's exactly what I agree with. But there are a couple provisions in here which just, to me, I don't see the reason for it. I want to talk more about it. I wish we'd get to them and those are the issues of whether we should have a physician choice at all, whether we should be able to choose one, at least one physician, and, secondarily, whether there should be a rebuttable presumption on the testimony of the independent medical examiner. Those are issues which...and I don't know which way I will go on those, but those are issues that really need to be debated because those get to the central core issue of workmen's comp and this bill. So I'm not really...I think Senator Lindsay has alluded to this, that this debate about the safety committee is...it's really not doing anything anyway and why is it even here and I'm not sure why it's here. It's not going to really have that much of an impact. It might create some mediation potential and for that possibly I see some benefit, but I really think what we need to do is develop a managed care system and still preserve the rights of employees to have their claims adjudicated. And so we need to get to those issues and we need to debate them at length and we need to get more people to talk about it and get involved in the debate and not, hopefully, get into the exercise of cutting off debate because I'm very interested in this subject and I think it's probably one of the most interesting subjects we've taken up since I've been here. It's one of the most critical and so I'd like to see us debate those central core issues and try to resolve at a fair and partial...and if this is one of those bills that's already been settled and it's going to go through without any amendments, well, you know, we've seen