

right now the reporting, there is not reporting on a mandatory basis for these HIV-positive tests that are being conducted on a voluntary basis across the State of Nebraska. There was concern about the original language of the bill which would have required on HIV-positive tests the opportunity for the Health Department to require for those to be reported on an individual basis, by name, in other words. Individuals felt that that would have a chilling effect on the voluntary taking of the test, and so we were faced with that concern, but the other concern that we had as a committee was the question about letting the people know, the public know, the Health Department know, how many positive tests were being conducted out there, how many tests in general were conducted, and getting a reading of statistically where this problem is going in Nebraska. And so we struck upon I think a fairly ingenious compromise to, number one, protect the individuality involved with the HIV-positive test but, number two, make sure the state has its rightful information to know statistically how many tests are conducted, how many are positive, how many are negative, so that we can have an understanding of gauging of the impacts of this disease in the State of Nebraska. This amendment was agreed to by the Health Department and other parties that are involved with the bill and is the main thrust of the committee amendments. There are other changes in the bill that are clarifying in nature. Physician-agent was a term in the bill, agent is deleted. It is not a term that is known, and some other minor changes, but that is the thrust of the committee amendments which I would urge to be adopted.

**SPEAKER BARRETT:** Thank you. Discussion on the committee amendments as explained by Senator Wesely. Senator Abboud, waives. Any discussion? If not, the question is the adoption of the committee amendments. All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk.

**CLERK:** 27 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of committee amendments.

**SPEAKER BARRETT:** The amendments are adopted. Senator Wesely, anything further on the bill?

**SENATOR WESELY:** Thank you. Yes, Mr. Speaker, members, LB 1012 as amended now is our first initial attempt to deal with this burgeoning crisis in our state dealing with AIDS. As you know, many other states have dealt with the issue although few have