

February 1, 1988

LB 693, 694, 958, 976, 1013, 1016, 1052
1060, 1100

SENATOR HIGGINS: ...what was the magic 100 people?

SENATOR LYNCH: No, that, Senator Higgins, that in itself would not do it. They would also have to conform to the requirements earlier stated in the bill requiring the two-year degree and all the rest of it. So the education part of it would not be offended by this. You would still have to have the education. The experience though, in administering 100 residents, not beds, I'm assuming only one person is going to be in a bed, but 100 residents would suffice to qualify those persons who could, in fact, by experience, avoid having to go to school for six months, probably without pay, to become an administrator of a nursing home bed, but they would first of all have to have the education as provided in the bill. That is not stricken.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Senator. I'm not sure that this is as good as it could be. I don't understand how if you run a home for 100 people you are any more knowledgeable than if you ran the same home with only 50 people. Your responsibilities to 100 are the same as they are to 25 or 30 and knowledge, you gain no more knowledge by taking care of 100 people than you do 50. I'm uncomfortable with the idea because I have strived so long to see that we have people knowledgeable taking care of those who are unable to care for themselves. And I think we deal with a very precious thing here, a human life, and I think that knowledge, you can never have too much when you're dealing and taking care of other people. I think there are things that you learn as a nursing home administrator. Whether or not you have to give up your job to get this education, I don't know. I know when we made it a law that nurse's aides had to be educated, the nursing home screamed how expensive it would be and yet we allowed them to train them while working there, didn't cost them a penny more. I'm still more in favor of education. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Wesely.

CLERK: Mr. President, if I might while we're waiting, Urban Affairs Committee would report LB 958 to General File and LB 976 to General File with amendments, LB 1016 to General File with amendments, LB 1052 indefinitely postponed. Those are signed by Senator Hartnett as Chair. Health and Human Services would report LB 1060 to General File, LB 1013 General File with amendments, LB 1100 General File with amendments, LB 694 as indefinitely postponed. Those are signed by Senator Wesely as