

opposed vote nay. Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 30 ayes, 0 nays, Madam President, on the adoption of committee amendments.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The committee amendments are adopted. The Chair recognizes Senator Hillman to open.

SENATOR HILLMAN: Yes, thank you, Madam Chairman and members. This is offered on behalf of the Department of Vehicles and that they feel they need some...be able to be more responsive to drivers and the applicants who may have medical vision or medical health problems. At the present time the department has no medical expertise to interpret various medical conditions and their treatment and no medical advise as to whether anyone who suffers from a questionable condition can safely operate a motor vehicle. The Health Advisory Board would have six caretakers appointed by the Director of the Department of Motor Vehicles, along with the advice and recommendation of the Director of the Department of Health. The six members would include one general practice physician, one ophthalmologist, a physician who is engaged in the practice of orthopedic surgery, one neurologist, an optometrist and psychiatrist. This board or individual board members will advise the department, through the director, by giving advice on specific cases in which the driver or drivers applicants, who are experiencing either some medical or vision problems, would come to the attention of the department. This would allow the director, who is the sole responsibility for interpreting any medical records and not having the kind of knowledge and expertise that he needs to make much better decisions, we feel, and would better serve the people in the State of Nebraska. There is an appropriation bill that does go with this. It would be \$8,000 for the first year, \$2,000 of that would be a one-time expense. After that it would be for various postage, mailing, then also the Health Advisory Committee members here would be reimbursed on a per diem, and would only be called as needed by the Director of Health so they would not meet on a regular basis, would not meet if there was no need. I would urge the body to support the bill and look at establishing this particular Health Advisory Board in the Department of Motor Vehicles. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Hillman. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Madam President, Senator Bernard-Stevens would move to