

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

February 7, 2001 LB 270

SENATOR HUDKINS: Yes.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Hudkins.

SENATOR HUDKINS: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Hudkins, you used the term "licensed", I think, "acupuncturist". Are there people who are licensed to practice acupuncture now?

SENATOR HUDKINS: There are licensed acupuncturists, but they may not practice in Nebraska. There is one gentlemen living here in Lincoln, he is a licensed acupuncturist, but he has to go to Council Bluffs to practice.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So, that's what I was wondering,...

SENATOR HUDKINS: He is not licensed...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...if there already are such people in Nebraska, then what would be the need for the bill? But there are no...there is no recognition of any acupuncturist, other than this doctors, chiropractors and others who perform it as a part or within the scope of their practice which they're licensed to conduct at this point?

SENATOR HUDKINS: That's correct. Medical doctors and chiropractors may now, within the scope of their license, practice acupuncture. The only problem is that they are not exposed to as many hours of that science as people who would like to have acupuncture performed on them would like to have. In other words, one doctor said, not at this hearing but at another hearing, that I...last year, I am licensed to practice acupuncture, but I have had absolutely no training in it. And the point of this bill is to give patients the choice. If they want to have acupuncture, they can go to a medical doctor, they can go to an acupuncturist, but they would prefer to have this treatment performed by someone who is specifically trained in this practice.