

presented. The . . . I have no strong feelings one way or another about the amendments. I suppose that if many other segments of the health care industry are included in certificate of need there is probably no reason why home health care should not be as well. But it is interesting to me and this points up one of the philosophical issues that surround certificate of need. It is interesting to me that some existing home health agencies brought these amendments to the Legislature and the reason they brought these amendments to the Legislature is that they are concerned about competition from other providers. They are not sure that they really want a lot of other people getting into the home health care business because it is going to be competitive. So what they really want, in my opinion, is for some franchising. They want the State of Nebraska to grandfather those in that exist already and then of course anyone else that wants to get into the business has to go through this costly and time consuming certificate of need process. So what we are really talking about is franchising home health agencies, home health care agencies. Since we are doing that virtually in every other segment of health care, I guess it is not something that I am going to object to strenuously but the motives of those who are involved is clearly to protect themselves from competition. I guess I am not enthralled with that but it is consistent with the regulatory scheme that we already have going. I hope that someday we can restore a modicum of competition in health care and that I think is going to be the thing more than regulatory schemes that will bring some cost effectiveness to health care. But at this point and time we might as well have this aspect of the health care delivery system included, so I will give Senator Marsh a green vote on this one.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Marsh, do you wish to be recognized? Okay, the motion is the Marsh amendment to the bill. All those in favor of the motion vote aye, opposed vote no. Have you all voted? Record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays on the adoption of Senator Marsh's amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay, the motion is carried the amendment is adopted.

CLERK: Mr. President, the next amendment I have is from Senator Cullan. Read Cullan amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Chair recognizes Senator Cullan for explanation.