

SENATOR NEWELL: Sam, you can push a button. I can appreciate your point. Well, at this time I would oppose the amendments to the bill because I think they substantially alter the bill and I think that this time it would be a tremendous mistake for this body who has not considered this issue, hasn't had a chance to prepare for them, didn't realize they were coming, really I think it would be a mistake to put these on 378. If they should be adopted by this Legislature, I will offer a motion to rerefer to the committee. Now I sense what Senator Cullan was saying. He said he thought he had the votes and so we can make our own rules or as we go along if you have the votes. Now that may be the case but I think that that drama is yet to be played out and that the appropriate thing for this body to do is to reject these amendments, ask Senator Cullan to introduce a bill dealing with the changes that he is talking about because he has got time to do that. He does not have to do an end run on this Legislature, an end run on his own committee at this point in time. So I think that when this Legislature considers these facts, not adopting these amendments would make good sense at this time, encouraging Senator Cullan to bring his committee into play, allow them to review and analyze those amendments that he is offering and the changes he is proposing, and if that is not the case, then I think this body must refer this bill back to committee if these changes are adopted. Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Dworak.

SENATOR DWORAK: Mr. President and colleagues, I have got a lot of mixed emotions on this issue. For one thing, a piece of legislation as heavy and as hotly contested as this one was in 1979, and with the kind of ramifications that this piece of legislation has on the health care industry, the practitioners, certainly the public of the State of Nebraska, I am not so sure we have given it enough time to work before doing major surgery on it. Now we are talking about at the beginning of 1982, we are really talking about a piece of legislation that has only been in effect a scant two years. I know there is a philosophical change in Washington and Senator Cullan alluded to it that probably the best way to keep costs down is through a highly competitive situation. I guess philosophically I agree with Senator Cullan, that that is probably the only real way we are going to be able to keep health care costs down, but then again in my own mind, I have problems really deciding whether health care is a competitive situation. You know I think when we get ill or when we have an accident or we are hurting in some way, we don't check the prices of two or three hospitals like we might check two or three