

bill deals with the licensure of different health professionals. And what we found is if your...if the typical license period for a different profession is like December 1, a two-year period to the next December 1, that somebody who comes in in October has to pay a full two-year fee and then come in in just a couple of months and get another one for another two-year fee and it doesn't...there is no allowance for prorating these license and so we provide for that in the bill. But, unfortunately, it referenced the Uniform Licensure Act and there are certain different professions not included in that and so they were missed in the drafting of the bill that we caught after the public hearing. So this would include all the different professions under that provision to allow a prorating of fees to cover whatever period of time is actually covered by the license issued. So I would ask for the adoption of this amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Any discussion? Seeing none, then the question is the adoption of the Wesely amendment to LB 344. All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Please record.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays on adoption of the Senator Wesely's amendment, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The amendment is adopted. Anything further? Senator Wesely, on the bill as amended.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just quickly, I have kind of already covered a number of items here and, just for the record again, the bill covers a number of topical areas in the Health Department that needed clarification; one other area I haven't mentioned yet, Vital Statistics. Currently, there is federal mandates about what kind of vital statistics are required and the current statutes are too restrictive for the Health Department to make adjustments so that they can meet the standards of the Federal Public Health Services. And so this would allow them that flexibility. Surcharges, it's now the case, a bill we passed a few years ago added a surcharge that went into the Child Abuse Prevention Fund, I believe it is, but right now the provision is that if you get a certificate of birth, you pay the dollar, but if they look and they don't find it, you don't have to pay the dollar and they sometimes look around and have to send back a dollar. Twelve hundred checks had to be written last year for one dollar each and it's kind of a waste of time and so they don't want to do that anymore. So that would not be the case in the future that the surcharge