

Senator Stevens' own community out there, and that is to allow those girls that are working and to go from a two-year associate to the three year. This bill has been well thought out. I had the input and I can go down the list. Rosalee Yeaworth, Pat Perry particularly, are two of them have helped me, Dr. Andrews, Dr. Joe Preusser, I can go right down the list. This bill was thought out. I did agree to meet with Senator Schellpeper and meet and discuss the needs only. His bill is \$2,000 "forgivance" of a loan to a simple 100 people. One hundred is nothing and that is for residents out in 15,000 and less. That takes away the Kearney, the Hastings, the Grand Island, the Sarpy Counties, the metropolitan areas. That was put in to satisfy the Department of Health because their regulations are a county 15,000 or less. That does not help enough people. It does not entice them in there. These \$2,000 loan "forgivance" is available through the Pell grants and the SSIGs and so on and so forth if they want to do it. That is what is wrong with that bill. It's a loan. You don't need a loan for a \$12,000 or \$15,000 job. I know the wages have jumped tremendously in the Omaha area right now, but some of us are married to farmers. Some of us are married to Sutton, Nebraska. They are simply not going to jump in the car and run to Omaha and Lincoln to work. I've tried not to make this bill an urban versus a rural. I absolutely tried very hard to do that. The need is out there, \$300 is a terrible lot to those people that cannot afford it and I purposely did not make it where...I even am insulted here when someone takes a...has to laugh about a situation this serious, that we take the money, we skip the country and run. It's after the fact. That is the reason it is in that bill for that. About 85 percent of the nurses that take their training stay in Nebraska. Of course, we try to entice them here from Kansas. We try to entice them here from North Dakota. The Mid-Plains College in North Platte has a program in conjunction with South Dakota. Naturally we're going to find them moving around a little bit. There are provisions in this bill. I have worked with the professionals in this bill and not a one of them...two weeks ago on the weekend, I think, I made a number of calls. In fact, I had 18, not all in the nursing, and what would you do? How would you change the bill? I absolutely would not change it one bit, and I can give you those numbers, I can give you those names. This has been studied out. I called the University of Nebraska Medical Center this morning only to find out what their criteria is, the need for basis. Sue Gessner came in my office yesterday afternoon wishing me luck on this bill, telling me, she told me to call. I called Joe Preusser, he studied the bill