

order to keep people here, we don't create an environment that enables them to prosper. What we do is we try to pay them enough to stay and I don't think that is good public policy even though the intent is well and good. With that, I would encourage the indefinite postponement of LB 357. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Wesely, please.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. President, members, just a...I know this may have been covered, but just briefly, the Health Committee has another piece of legislation, Senator Schellpeper's LB 520 that has been advanced, deals with this subject in a different fashion. You know, we did have a meeting set up with Senator Nelson to talk about different concerns, the need base, the desire to have these individuals stay in Nebraska. I really think that there are amendments needed to the piece of legislation and probably, you know, we could kill this bill and use the other bill as a vehicle because it is need based, it does require people to stay in Nebraska and, frankly, I'm kind of leaning in that direction right now, that we maybe don't need two pieces of legislation heading down a similar road but, obviously, at loggerheads in those basic fundamental concepts. So, unfortunately, I sense that maybe that may take care of our problem by indefinitely postponing this bill and dealing with the issue through Senator Schellpeper's bill. That is just...we have another option is what I am saying. I give the rest of my time to Senator Smith.

PRESIDENT: Senator Smith, please.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Senator Wesely. I would just ask Senator Nelson, if you would respond to a question, please?

SENATOR NELSON: Yes.

SENATOR SMITH: Senator Nelson, I think I do agree with the concerns that have been expressed by some of the people here this morning. I think that you would have better success if you were willing to amend the bill so that it is based on need, and in all fairness, that is probably the best way to go. Would you be supportive of that?

SENATOR NELSON: Very much. I thought we tried to work on that. We had a meeting in Senator Wesely's office the night before