

SPEAKER BARRETT: Would you respnd, Senator Nelson?

SENATOR NELSON: Certainly.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: When a nurse would get the \$500, could they then leave Nebraska without actually practicing in Nebraska?

SENATOR NELSON: No, my amendment the other day says, practicing in a nursing, accredited nursing school. I suppose...

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: No, I mean after once they graduate, they could leave Nebraska right away then. They don't have to stay in Nebraska to practice nursing?

SENATOR NELSON: My bill would give them, after each year of study, after the first year, it is after the fact, it is not a loan, in other words, they have to go in and they have to stay, it would give them the five. I suppose, as you know, 90 some percent of the nurses stay in Nebraska, more than that at the LPN and the community colleges. I suppose there is no way that you can tie them down if they don't want to, or the same way if they accept a loan, they don't have to stay in Nebraska. They do have to get that to get the loans, but my bill just says, let's see, I will have to find the amendment, but it is they have to go to an accredited school to get it, and it is after the fact. To practice in Nebraska, I don't have a hammer on them (interruption) incentive.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Would you look up and try to find that for me because I can't find it in the bill where they have to stay in Nebraska to actually practice. I think that the need is a very good thing in this bill. I think it is something that we really have to have, and the statement that Senator Nelson made that the rural are not having any harder time than what they are in the cities is really not right because I think if you will go out to any rural area and look what they are trying to do with the nursing home, the hospitals. They just cannot find nurses out there, and I think we need to do something to help them. The salaries in the cities is much higher than it is in the rural areas. We have figures to document that and I think we need to do something that will help the nursing outstate and also in the whole state, but, mainly, in these rural areas. And I do support the need because I think that we definitely have to have that need part and that's...the amendment will do that. So