

fact, it takes bill 520, which is the bill we heard in the Health Committee, and puts it into 357. It does some of the same things that Senator Nelson tried to do except we do some things as far as rural senators, or rural nurses, not senators. Rural senators need help, too, but probably not as much as what the rural nurses need help. But this amendment would require that the nurses have to practice in the state in order to receive any payment. It shows, we have some figures that show that in the past year that about 69 percent of all the nurses that graduated left the state, and it used to be up to 85 percent. So they are going to where the money is, and I think we need to do some things to try to keep them in Nebraska. We put a \$2,000 maximum amount that they can receive for needy students, and I think that rather than try to put \$500 and trying to help 500 or 1,000 nurses, we are trying to help 100 nurses out there that are the most needy, and I think if we will do that, we will get the program turned around into the area that we need to have it turned to. There is actually three things that this amendment will really do. It will put the financial support for full-time and part-time students, it puts the reimbursement for the students that actually practice in Nebraska, and it increases the number of nurses with qualifications in order to teach nursing. We have that set at the present time at five nurses, and I think all of the schools have told us that if you want to have nurses, you have to have the teachers to teach the nurses. You can't just help the nurses without actually having the teachers, also. So that is why we decided to put in five teachers in there per year. We also put a maximum of \$400,000, and I think with this amendment, it will help the nurses, and it is an amendment I think that Senator Nelson may have a little problem with but it is an amendment I think that is very fair to the nursing industry. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Discussion on the Schellpeper amendment. Senator Smith, followed by Senators Nelson, Withem, Wesely, and Langford.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask a couple of questions of Senator Schellpeper if I may.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Okay.

SENATOR SMITH: Stan, can you give me, we just adopted Arlene's amendments to the original bill, LB 357, your intent in my