

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Langford.

SENATOR LANGFORD: Mr. President, colleagues, I would have to oppose the Schellpeper amendment, and for one reason. Both of my counties would be eliminated, Buffalo County and Hall County would be eliminated. I think you would find it very difficult for people in Ravenna to believe they weren't in a rural area, or Elm Creek. Those people need nurses also, but Buffalo County has more than 50,000 population. I am sure Lincoln County does, Adams County, Hall County, probably every county that has a city of any size in it would be eliminated. Therefore, I couldn't possibly support this amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. Maybe, I guess Senator Schellpeper is who I need to ask the question. I was going to do it to Senator Wesely but I don't see him in the Chamber at this time.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Schellpeper, would you respond?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Stan, just a couple of questions I have, if we went with your amendment, at the way it is worded now, there would be a total of 100 people that would receive the benefits, is that correct?

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: That is correct, per year.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Yes, correct, for four years or the number of years that they are within the program. My question is, I go back to the National Guard problem that we had last year where we had a limited number of people and a specified amount of dollars that could go to, and what happened if I remembered right is because there are so many different recruiters and the bureaucracy of the system that when they finally looked at the number of students that they accepted in the program that we ended up not having enough money to cover all those students, which then, Senator Goodrich, at the end of the session last time, had to come and we had to get additional appropriations to meet those students. And I guess I am wondering if we may have the same problem here, not that it can't be ironed out, but would we have a problem of, say, North Platte trying to get as many nurses under the program as possible, Lincoln, and their nursing school, trying to get as