

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Crosby, please, followed by Senator Moore.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Mr. President. I rise to support this bill and I'm not going to speak on the technical side of it. I'm simply going to say I went on it early because, and I have the feeling this morning with the Legislature not paying attention, and that is what happens to nurses, we take them from granted. Nurses have saved my life more than once. I would venture to say a lot of you have had that experience. We talk a lot in this Legislature and every hearing in Health and Human Services and in Education Committee's, which I am a member of those two, every hearing we hear there is a nursing shortage. So this is an opportunity for this Legislature to say to nurses we want to help you. It's an incentive for them to further their education, and incentive for students to go into nursing, which there is a real problem these days to get people to go into nurses training. So I urge you, this morning, take advantage of that and move this bill. It's a wonderful bill. I will yield now the rest of my time to Senator Korshoj. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Korshoj, you have four minutes, not quite.

SENATOR KORSHOJ: Mr. President and members, I only have one question I want to ask Senator Schellpeper. I wasn't here the other day during debate. It says 150 students per year would be selected for this program, how are they selected? Is it a first come, first served basis, or how do you do that?

PRESIDENT: Senator Schellpeper, please.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: The institution gets so many positions based on the number of nursing students they have in their school. Then the institution selects the students based on the financial need. That's the way they're selected.

SENATOR KORSHOJ: That's all the time I need. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Moore, please.

SENATOR MOORE: Yes. To further Senator Korshoj's line of questioning, the same issue. I'm concerned about, if Senator Schellpeper would yield, now this will be distributed on a