

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Mr. President and members, this is not the appropriate place to raise this, but at some point, Senator Wesely, I think you are aware of some concerns that at least one constituent of mine has raised on this bill. I'm going to support you on this bill but I just want to (No overlap between tapes. Some debate may be missing.) ...there is a question yet in my mind if we have taken care of his concerns or if we can take care of his concerns. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Did you wish to close on your motion, Senator Wesely?

SENATOR WESELY: I need to address that. I think maybe the better course would be to adopt this amendment and then I can address her concerns on the committee amendments. So I move the adoption of these amendments to the committee amendments.

PRESIDENT: All right. The question is the adoption of the Wesely amendments to the committee amendments. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 16 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the amendment to the committee amendments.

PRESIDENT: They are adopted. Now on the committee amendments, Senator Wesely, please.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. Mr. President and members, if I could address Senator Scofield's concern and Senator Wehing had similarly come to me, out in the Panhandle, there is a mental retardation regional director who has had some concerns about this legislation. In fact, all the regional services directors have been concerned about this piece of legislation, and we have met and discussed and agreed to this bill. I am not quite sure if this one individual has yet agreed but the situation is the following: The statute in question has been on the books, had not been clarified, and the Attorney General is ready at this time, if this Legislature doesn't act this session, to, basically, throw it off the books as too vague to be implemented. If that statute is thrown off the books and not implemented, you have all of these different facilities that I went through earlier and there are a total of 208 of them who will have to have nurses distributing medications, rather than the staff that they now have in place. That alternative, of course, would be unreasonable. If you had only nurses able to