

amendment, senators, because the Department of Health already will do a background study as a part of the licensing procedure. It is not necessary for us to state by statute that the Department of Health should study the trends in an area. That is the general responsibility of the Department of Health. There isn't any reason for us to place this language in the statute. The language is totally unnecessary. The Department of Health already does this, will continue to do it, have assured us they will do it. And to place language in there requiring that it be done will only guarantee you one thing, senators, and that is that within a year from now, when the Department of Health comes before the Appropriations Committee, they will provide a request...an appropriation to do that study. I don't think it's necessary. They haven't indicated they needed money for it, and I would, therefore, oppose the amendment and ask that you also oppose it. I think it's important you recognize this, that the committee looked at many aspects of this situation during the course of the debate. This is one of the issues we discussed, it was determined it was not necessary. I know that it doesn't sound like it's very important, sounds sort of harmless, maybe it is, but it's not necessary. We have enough legislation in the statutes today without adding unnecessary language. We do not need it. I ask you to respectfully vote against this Morrissey amendment.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Korshoj, please. Senator Langford, please.

SENATOR LANGFORD: Is it too early to call the question?

PRESIDENT: Well, I think maybe we better have a little bit more, Senator Langford, if you don't mind. Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Members of the body, and particularly Senator Morrissey, I have, for your information, gotten in touch with the Department of Health since the last time we dealt with this issue and talked about it, because remember when I mentioned that I knew there was a cancer registry, but I didn't know what condition it was in or how far they'd gone. And from Gregg Wright I have, and I would make sure that you get a copy of this, a complete information as far as cancer data in Nebraska by county, totals, different kinds of cancer and so on, dating back from their aggregate date, it goes back to the years 1981 through '87. It talks about sex, the stage of the disease, the age and so on, and it talks about