

hospital, who takes care of you most of the time? A nurse. If you're in the emergency room, who comes out and takes care of you and gets you on whatever emergency treatment you need before the doctor gets there? The nurse. If you have a baby, who takes care of you first? The nurse. The nurse is right there all the time. If you're in surgery, the nurses are the ones who really take care of you. The doctors do the work and that kind of...and diagnosis and so on, but the nurse is so important to every one of us in every day of our lives to us and our children that I can't ever say enough. And one of the big problems with the nursing profession is that it has been downgraded over the years because of the rush to specialties and the technological advances that we have enjoyed in the health professions. So we need to...these incentives to get men and women, both, interested and back to the nursing profession, and to upgrade that profession in pay and other benefits, to be sure that they will stay in the profession, and especially in Nebraska in our rural areas, but in our urban areas, too. Here in Lincoln and Omaha and this area we need them, too. So I can't urge you enough to vote for this bill and hope that it will become law this year and that we'll be able to take this baby step in beginning a real beginning to do this kind of legislation and the incentives and the encouragement to those who are already nurses. We need to encourage them to stay in their profession and to feel good about their profession. Most of them do, and they are wonderful people. So I just urge you to vote for the amendments and for the bill. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Nelson, please.

SENATOR NELSON: I...Well, I don't know, I hate to call the question. Maybe other people want to speak, or if I can...I'll just say I still speak in support. I have some concerns of how it's being worked out, but anything that we could do and possibility of helping the nursing I will support it and I'll work hard for it.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Schellpeper, would you like to close on your amendment?

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Thank you, Mr. President and members. Senator Nelson, in just talking to some people in the back, they said there is a standard federal analysis that is used now for all need. Yeah. And that's what...you have a question about that?