

everyone that testified, they tried to overkill it with loving it so much, so I think it's a bill that is probably wanted in rural Nebraska. So I would just move that we advance 994. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Discussion, Senator Rod Johnson.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. President, I would add my voice of support to Senator Schellpeper's bill. I think it addresses what I consider to be one of the most significant areas of critical shortage with rural health, both in recruitment of doctors and health care professionals and also with helping manage some of the financial problems that many of our hospitals are facing in rural areas. And so I introduced a piece of legislation that was very similar to this that was heard by the Health Committee last week. I asked them to delete that portion of the bill that dealt with the rural health care area because of Senator Schellpeper's bill and I'd like to add my voice of support to his work in this area because we're hurting out there in the rural areas and we need some kind of support from this state to address what I see are some very critical problems confronting rural health care, so this may be one vehicle that will help us.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Any other discussion? Any closing statement, Senator Schellpeper? Thank you. The question is, shall LB 994 be advanced to E & R? All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. While we're waiting, Senator Schellpeper, there is an A bill which I'd like to take up next on 994, if you'd be ready, please. Have you all voted? Please record.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the motion to advance 994.

SPEAKER BARRETT: LB 994 is advanced. To the A bill, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: LB 994A, Mr. President, offered by Senator Schellpeper appropriates funds to implement the provisions of LB 994.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Schellpeper.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. The A bill is for \$54,185 in '90-91 and \$56,664 in '91-92. This is quite a bit less than what we had last year, as I said before,