

PRESIDENT: Senator Wesely, please.

SENATOR WESELY: Yes, is this AM2734, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: I have 2734, Senator.

SENATOR WESELY: That's the one.

PRESIDENT: Senator Wesely, before you start, (gavel) could we hold it down please so that we can hear the speakers. Thank you. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thanks again, Mr. President, members of the Legislature, as you recall, LB 348 is a bill that is a priority bill of Senator Lorraine Langford. It deals with the opportunity for chiropractors to, in diagnosis of patients, extend x-rays beyond the axial skeletal into the extremities and this would allow for, you know, arms, legs, head, in their diagnosis of patients that come before them, and it did go through the 407 review process and it was considered by the Health and Human Services Committee and the original bill had included other types of things, including lab work and what have you. That was all deleted out of the bill by the committee and it just focuses now on the x-ray issue. I did withdraw the previous amendment that dealt with a concern that has come up since the bill was advanced off General File onto Select File and that amendment raised a lot of concern and you've probably heard about it. The physicians, in particular, and others concerned about this issue wanted to see some clarity in the language of the bill that this bill deals with diagnostic purposes and x-rays and their ability to be used for diagnostic purposes and it does not deal with the scope of practice of the chiropractors, that that they would not be able to go beyond their current scope of practice just because of this bill allowing for further utilization of x-rays beyond the actual skeleton. Well, the original amendment did not meet with approval by the chiropractors, obviously, and so discussion and negotiation occurred between the chiropractors, physicians, others and Senator Langford and myself and, as a result, Senator Langford and myself are co-sponsoring this amendment. If you read it, what it talks about, and I'll just read it right now, the use of x-rays beyond the axial skeleton shall be solely for diagnostic purposes and shall not expand the practice of chiropractic to include the treatment of human ailments, disorders, and disease not permitted when the use of x-rays was