

SENATOR LYNCH: Mr. President and members, I feel obliged to stand and talk about the 407 process because I think that was my idea a long time ago. And what we're talking about now with this bill in its present form is, in fact, what the 407 process agreed to. But the bill that you had before you, before it was amended with the Wesely-Langford amendment was something much different than that and for those of you who are advocates of chiropractors or anyone else, physicians, remember, that is the difference. So in the process of answering Senator Hefner's comment, I would think physicians and surgeons who had some concern with the expansion of practice that was requested by chiropractors that would, in fact, permit them not only to x-ray, but to treat those areas, caused some problems. And I want to caution all of you here, the 407 process, ...and I don't think this Legislature should be involved with determining legislatively what professionals ought to do in the medical field or any other field. If they want to be something, go to school to be it, go to school so that you can get the license, go to school so you can get the certification, go to school so you can be whatever you want to be, but let's not continue to permit ourselves, this Legislature, to be used by anybody to expand a legitimate scope of practice legislatively, and then put us all, all of us amateurs, not very well equipped to debate a scope of practice act. How...you know, when does an optometrist begin and end, and an ophthalmologist begin and end, and a...wherever? The whole thing is kind of unfortunate for us, the system is unfortunate that it does not provide this legislative body with the wisdom to know all those things except that we have to have some confidence somewhere along the line, that the educational systems we have in this country do, in fact, provide education so that people can be certified at a certain point in time as competent and equipped to provide a particular service. Our job is to make sure that that level of competence is recognized and, in fact, licensed or, in fact, certified, but we should not go beyond that. We should not allow the system to be used so that people can expand that responsibility legislatively. So what we're talking about now simply is, in fact, what the 407 process said was okay to do, to x-ray the neck and x-ray the arm. A personal comment, if I could, is a chiropractor is trained by feel and touch to understand and to treat. In fact, originally the chiropractors took great pride and they were very, very successful because years ago before we had all this technology they were a skill and an art that was able to treat people without violating the body, and that was in the days when people were cut and nobody