

SENATOR COORDSEN: Is this the first one?

CLERK: This...well, 2765, I understand you want to withdraw, Senator.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Right. Right.

CLERK: Is that right? Okay. Then, Senator...

SENATOR COORDSEN: Okay, 2800 is the amendment.

CLERK: Right.

SENATOR COORDSEN: AM2800 is a negotiated-out version of what was LB 948 which addressed a problem that had been brought about in the nursing home industry because of a change of terminology in federal regulations in the OBRA '89 in which some people who worked in nursing homes and had a responsibility for social service activities in those homes were faced by...with a real possibility of losing their jobs because of a change of the terminology of that job. The Association of Social Workers had some problems with the original bill as how it might impact all of those people who are either a certified master social worker or certified social workers. I had introduced this amendment on General File and then pulled it and we had a meeting of the affected parties in Senator Wesely's office with the nursing home industry and the social workers in place. Amendment 2800 then is a provision in the nursing home industry that would provide that those people that are currently employed in positions that are required to be called social workers would be able to be grandfathered in if they had been engaged in the actual practice of social work at least 20 hours per week for three of the past seven years prior to the effective date of this act. It has a final date for grandfathering of October 1, 1991 and it has another provision that those who have a degree in social work from a nonapproved course or a related field and have actually been engaged in the practice of social work in a nursing home for at least 1,000 hours may also apply by October 1, 1991 for certification as a social worker. This bill relates only to those people who are currently employed in nursing homes in those types of activities. Little bit of history that when the original nursing home...or the original social worker legislation was passed, these people felt that they were excluded from the certifying process because of the