

obviously want to work on this matter, whatever the decision of the body. But in terms of precedent and in terms of principle, my argument is that the bill should be rereferenced back to the Health and Human Services Committee.

SENATOR LAMB: The Chair recognizes Senator Dierks followed by Senators Nelson, Warner and Baack.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Mr President and members of the body, Senator Wesely said it so well. I believe that the main issue here is health related, not penalty related. We're talking about an issue that has to do with all of our citizens, their health and their welfare and I believe that that's the reason for establishing a Health Committee in this Legislature. Can't see any reason for this bill to be anywhere but in Health and Human Services Committee. That is the main thrust of the bill and that's the main thrust of that committee. So I'm certainly supporting this motion of Senator Wesely's. Thank you.

SENATOR LAMB: The Chair recognizes Senator Nelson.

SENATOR NELSON: Mr. Speaker, I, too, cannot say it any better than Senator Wesely, as...for the new members of the body, this issue has been around for several years and each and every time that I've been involved, and I've been involved for four or five years, it has been heard in front of the Health and Human Services Committee. I do admit there is a penalty there. When I look at the long list of bills for Judiciary Committee, I think anything that we could get referenced away from there, but we should not reference a bill just because one committee has a larger load than the other, but this is strictly a health issue. And there are members on the Health and Human Services Committee that are familiar. It has been heard over and over again. This is a penalty involved, but that's not the main part of the bill or the main concern. It is health issue, health related and it would simply make the introducers or the opposers of the bill have to go back through and reeducate all of the Judiciary Committee. I'm not saying which committee would be a preference or not, I don't know. I do even serve on Judiciary Committee, but this is a health issue and it definitely should be sent to the Health and Human Services and I also might mention to the body that Jack Rodgers of the Research Office, Legislative Research, also recommended that this bill go to the Health and Human Services, and it is a health issue, and with that I can't