

SENATOR ROBINSON: Maybe we could have two from each do the supervision. I've thought about that, in fact I've...my aide is working on an amendment to that. But I still have problems with this amendment. And I told my good friend that lives close to me, I said, well, sometimes you don't get the whole bale of hay. And I think, I really believe this, I think the committee amendments...I think there's a pretty good size...pretty good size bale right in that. And I know that there's always more room to push the other guy down a little and so forth. But I have...I have friends on both sides, and it is a tough decision. I've heard many people say that. But I think we have to keep the health of that patient in mind, in case there's emergency, can that optometrist deal with that?

PRESIDENT MOUL: Time.

SENATOR ROBINSON: And I know there are several other issues. Thank you, Senator Crosby, for the time.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Robinson. Senator Morrissey, followed by Senators Wehrbein and Bernard-Stevens. Senator Morrissey.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Thank you, Madam President and members. I rise in support of the Moore-Wesely amendment. To me, this is a question of rural care, rural health care, that's the perspective I'm looking at it from. If you read any of the articles published on rural health care they say, well, folks, here's what you're going to have to accept, you might not have a doctor in your district anymore, you just might not be able to do that. Why? Well, a doctor doesn't want to live there. So you may have to have a physician's assistant or nurses do your primary care, and then when some emergency happens, we'll ship you up to where the doctors will live. And part of the problem in my view of escalating costs of health care is specialists. The people in the trenches, basically, don't get no respect. Your family doctor, and the people down there that are working with you every day, listen to you gripe and complain, knowing what's going on, they know you, they know your ailments, they chug along and get their money, and they live well for the small community. But have something happen and here comes a specialist waltzing in, just come waltzing down to town. If you've got three operations for me, I'll come down, 900 bucks a pop, I'm referring to a knee injury I had. They waited until we had three people ready to go, physician came down, the