

recommending the sort of legislation that's before you with the Moore amendment, although there may be some variation. We need to be careful here but I think generally would support the thrust of the bill and one opposed it, the third opposed it, that was Dr. Wright, the Director of Health. So two out of three in the process said, yes; one said, no. I mean, you can decide the ignore the two and follow the third, it's your choice, but I think the process worked through this issue rather carefully and I am in support of the Moore amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Senator Schellpeper, followed by Senators Morrissey, Byars, Moore, Bernard-Stevens, Wickersham and Robinson. Senator Schellpeper.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Thank you, Madam President, and members, I can't believe that Senator Dierks would support having something like this happen. If the veterinary assistants wanted to come in and tell him what to do in his practice, I'm sure he wouldn't go along with that. And you're really doing about the same thing, you know, it just doesn't make sense that you're going to do something like that. You're giving somebody authority to do something where they really are not trained. You need to have somebody there to regulate them. And if they are trained and if the people that regulate them say that they can do it, they will be able to do it. But you need somebody in there that would be like a teacher. You can't let students regulate students. We need to have quality care no matter where you're at in Nebraska. Now as far as these ophthalmologists, this map, they are in that area some time. I'm not saying when but they're...because I don't really know but they are in that area some time. Just because you would have 40 hours training, that's like one week. That isn't 40 class hours in a classroom. We're only talking 40 hours training. That would be one week with another...with an ophthalmologist. Now there needs...that ophthalmologist needs to have the say-so whether that optometrist is really trained or not. He may go a whole week in that office without seeing somebody that would be seriously ill with glaucoma. So by just having the 40 hours doesn't mean that he is really trained enough. I think you need to have somebody with some jurisdiction and I think this amendment will try to get to that final solution by splitting this up, by putting the education in but leaving the others for the battle who regulates who later. So I support the Bernard-Stevens amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Schellpeper. Senator