

they have a say in what's happening. I think that's going to be a very fair board. The optometrists then will have a say in what they can actually do. I'm like Senator Robinson, I support the optometrists. I think we just need to make sure that what they do that they are regulated enough so that they are not treating something that they are not educated for. If they're educated, I have no problem at all having them treat, but you need to make sure that they are educated. And, by working out this advisory board to make sure they have the education and the knowledge, not just 40 hours in a clinic, but make sure that they are educated in treating glaucoma, I think we can work this out. But you need to defeat the Moore amendment and then adopt my amendment so that you can have this advisory board there to work things out so that the optometrists have a say in what actually happens with their profession. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Schellpeper. Senator Morrissey.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Thank you, Madam President, and members, I, again, urge the support of the Moore amendment and support of the bill. I just emphasize it's a question of what's happening out in the country. And, again, I know Senator Schellpeper and Senator Robinson have the same concerns I do, we just have a few different priorities in how we approach it. Rural health care is changing. It is not static, it is not the way it was. We are losing population. We are losing facilities. We can't attract doctors easily. We have to work and work and work. The doctors I have in my district are continually tempted to come to Lincoln and take a straight eight and make more money than they make in Tecumseh working daylight to dark. They could do that. The docs in my district could make more money by coming to Lincoln and working the straight eight. But they don't do that. They could make much more money by coming to Lincoln, get a little more education and become a specialist, but they don't do that. Does that mean they're less intelligent than the specialists up here? No, it doesn't. It means they're dedicated to what they're doing. They enjoy the lifestyle in the small town and they want to be down there and serve the people. It means they're willing to sit there and live with the patients day to day and take all the grief that we deal to them, all the grief of day-to-day health care and make less money doing it, and take more time. It's the same situation of my health care philosophy with the optometrists versus the ophthalmologists. I think a professional, like the