

February 14, 1995 LB 366, 401

SENATOR HALL: I think it may actually be the kind of thing necessary to keep some of these hospitals alive and well and also to allow for the professionals to be willing to stay in those communities. So it's kind of a joint venture, I guess, is the best way to put it. But it's the kind of thing that will benefit both parties. I just wanted to...I was curious about that. I thought that was the intent, but I just wanted to make sure for the record. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Madam President, members. In follow-up to Senator Hall's question, I think Senator Bromm did answer it accurately that what we heard at the hearing were that county hospitals were worried about the world passing them by and being stuck without the proper statutory authority to move forward with changes in the health care system. With all the PPOs forming, the PHOs and the different types of systems that we have in place, the language in statute didn't appear to allow them the flexibility they needed to adjust and participate in those networks, so that's really all it's intended to do. So, anyway Senator Hall, I'm sure, will be satisfied with that answer and with the intent of the bill. And I do think Senator Bromm did bring a valuable piece of legislation to help county hospitals.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Is there any further discussion on LB 366? Seeing none, Senator Bromm, do you wish to close? Closing is waived. The question before the body is the advancement of LB 366. All those in favor vote aye, all those opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? Please record.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 28 ayes, 0 nays on the advancement of the bill.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: LB 366 advances. LB 401.

ASSISTANT CLERK: LB 401 was introduced by Senators Wesely and Brown. (Read title.) The bill was read for the first time on January 12th, referred to the Health and Human Services Committee. They report the bill to General File with committee amendments.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The Chair recognizes Senator Wesely to open on the committee amendments.