

for both registered nurses and LPNs. The scope of practice is not changed by the bill, but rather a number of issues are clarified. The amendments to the bill delete proposed changes that relate to discipline and licensing because that is being studied by the Department of Health. The amendments maintain the current statutory language concerning delegation of duties to auxiliary personnel in health care facilities. The amendments also provide that when the Board of Nursing issues opinions concerning the scope of practice of nursing, such opinions are subject to declaratory judgment provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act. This bill merely delineates the scope of practice between RNs and LPNs and updates the procedure. We would request the approval of the committee amendments. They were advanced 7 to 0 by the Health and Human Services Committee.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Matzke. Is there any further discussion on the adoption of the committee amendments? Seeing none, Senator Matzke, do you wish to close? Closing is waived. The question before you is the adoption of the committee amendments to LB 563. All those in favor vote aye, all those opposed vote nay. Please record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Madam President, on the adoption of committee amendments.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The committee amendments are adopted. The Chair recognizes Senator Day to open on the bill.

SENATOR DAY: Thank you, Madam President and members, I want to make sure that the body understands this is the Nurse Practice Act, not the Nurse Practitioners Act which I am sure you have been getting some phone calls on and we will be discussing at a later date on the floor. This bill was the result of two works, over two years of work by various nursing groups to come to a consensus as to what they wanted in this. The groups involved had direct input from the State Board of Nursing as well and there is consensus on this among those groups. It redefines professional and practical nursing to more closely align with respective roles within the framework of the nursing process. It strengthens the role of the licensed practical nurse. It strengthens the restrictions on the use of the term nurse at a time when the use of unlicensed personnel is growing. It changes the composition of the Board of Nursing by adding a staff nurse and it revises the powers and duties of the Board of