

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Any discussion? Seeing none, the question before you is the adoption of the E & R amendments to LB 406. All those in favor say aye. All those opposed nay. The amendments are adopted.

CLERK: Senator Bohlke has the next amendment, but I have a note she wishes to withdraw, Madam President.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: It is withdrawn.

CLERK: The next amendment I have is by Senator Wesely. Senator, AM1118. (Amendment referred to on page 1250 of the Legislative Journal. Printed separately.)

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Wesely.

CLERK: I might indicate to the membership, Madam President, you'll find the amendment in your bill books, it's AM1118, you'll find it in your bill books.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Madam President, members of the Legislature, again, LB 406 is the annual Health Department cleanup bill and we go through this every year. Hopefully, this one won't be as painful as some of the past years, but we'll see. The amendment that is before you deals with a bill, an issue that has been of conflict and controversy for almost ten years. It deals with X-ray techs and we did pass a bill in the mid-1980s to try and deal with the problem of qualifications for those who want to perform X-rays. We passed the bill, I think it was in 1986, 1987, but it actually wasn't implemented until last fall, so we're talking about six or seven years at least before a bill was passed and actually implemented. And the reason it was delayed is that there was a lot of controversy about how to proceed and what would happen and we were trying to find a middle ground and we just couldn't get it done last session when we had a bill on this issue and Senator Matzke and other members of the committee, Senator Byars, worked on the issue last session but we simply couldn't, we just hit a brick wall. We have continued to work on this issue and I am here to present to you, I believe, a consensus amendment to relieve us of this issue at least for the time being and try to find a way to address the concerns of those who do X-rays and making sure there is adequate qualifications for them, but also not creating too heavy a burden on the health care providers of this state. So essentially this is an amendment based on LB 405 so if you're