

functions. The bill itself is a cleanup bill for the Health Department and our attempt here is to take provisions of 485 that had been agreed to in committee. It was put out unanimously after being amended. The original bill had a number of elements that were problematic and were deleted from the bill as advanced by committee. Senator Dierks has given you the sanitized version of LB 485 free of any of the controversy that was found with the original piece of legislation. Those other elements we don't need to get into, but I think that the changes that we're talking about here do in fact help with efficiency of the department and deal with a number of concerns that came forward without, I think, any of the negative concerns that came up as well. I think Senator Hartnett has a measure that is included in here as well dealing with the visually impaired and a committee that is formed that had been agreed to as well. So these are, in my view, more or less amendments that are administrative in nature that are not going to have, I think, any negative response and no opposition that I know of and so I would rise in support of the Dierks amendment.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Madam President, I challenge the germaneness of this amendment. Number one, the bill that we're on, 406, we're talking about nursing care, nursing centers. This bill, LB 485, we have juvenile services grants which I have a lot of questions on that I don't understand exactly the areas that will be combined, why, but we're certainly talking about juvenile justice. It doesn't apply to the nursing care bill that we have. We're also talking about another bill, LB 610, and I think it's just a little bit early in the session that we start putting bills in as amendments, particularly when they are clearly not germane as this one is not. So I would challenge the germaneness of this particular bill, this particular amendment to this bill.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Bernard-Stevens. Senator Dierks.

SENATOR DIERKS: Well I would argue that the amendments that I've offered were all in one bill that came to Health Committee. These were...and they do deal with health issues. The CLIA act deals with the testing of human tissue. The administration of the milk inspection act is a health issue. The one that Senator