

Wesely, you're going to handle that.

SENATOR WESELY: Right.

CLERK: I have AM639 in front of me, Senator.

SENATOR WESELY: Right.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Madam President. This is again a technical amendment to the committee amendments. Senator Day did offer it. I'm asking you to support it as well. What it does is a law that we passed in 1994 was LB 900 that time, dealt with public health clinics drug dispensing permits and, unfortunately, the language in the bill negated that law or I should say contradicted that law and we need to bring them into harmony. So with that, I'd ask for your adoption of this amendment to the committee amendments.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. Senator Withem, do you wish to speak to the Wesely amendment?

SPEAKER WITHEM: Yeah, I believe I will because I just want to talk as much about process as about substance of the bill. As Senator Wesely indicated, I was a cosponsor of 414 last year along with Senator Day. When Senator Day left the Legislature, she asked me to be the main sponsor of it. I would defer, though, that Senator Wesely is far better able to respond to technical questions about the nursing statutes and what they provide. Let me comment, though, a little bit about our process. I know any number of you, any number of you, every one of you has received a significant amount of lobbying on both sides of this issue; and these are the types of issues that we as a Legislature have a lot of difficulty with because we're asked to referee what are in essence technical fights between two parties on the outside of the Legislature. What we...where we were at the beginning of the discussions we had last December and on into the first few days of this session were in essence four issues that separated the two sides. Those related to the amount of education, the type of state oversight we would have, whether or not there should be some by-pass if there was no arrangement that could be voluntarily entered into, and finally the most significant one is defining the degree of independence