

PRESIDENT ROBAK: No, Senator, you're not the only light on.

SPEAKER WITHEM: That wasn't the question. Am I allowed to proceed? I didn't know.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: You are speaking, Senator.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Okay. No, I knew I'd not be the only light on but that would be nice. Thank you, Senator Kristensen, for that comment. This amendment is the amendment I alluded to before and this really gets to the point where the Legislature will be having to make a decision. Senator Wesely and I and others have been working diligently to try to not make you choose between one side or the other and we've got everything resolved down to this point, and at this point there appears to be no resolution so you will now be in a position of earning your large salaries by making a decision here. And as I indicated before, I think if you would sit down, if you'd sat in with the meetings and the discussions they really were good. I think quite frankly they were a lot better than a lot of these discussions between medical practitioners were because when you would talk about do advanced registered nurse practitioners have a place in health care delivery system the doctors would enthusiastically say, yes. You would ask should the advanced registered nurse practitioners have total freedom to perform any sort of medical procedures that they felt they wanted to and the nurse practitioners would say, no, we don't want to do that. We want to be limited by the scope of our training. All we want is a little bit more free access to carry out what we've been trained and the current system doesn't allow that, and the doctors would agree with that. There's an awful lot of philosophical agreement on both parts. The concern is how do you state exactly what you can do within the confines of the legislative bill which will then go to the Department of Health for them to draft rules and regulations, it will go to the Attorney General's office for their interpretation. And there is a lot of concern about how the final product will actually come out and, you know, the language within the bill. It's remarkable I think that we've gotten this close on a bill of this length and this size with this many different procedures. We are really down to two words on page 4 of the AM2750 in line 24. The current amendment says, "Supervision shall mean the ready availability of the collaborating physician for consultation and direction of the activities of the advanced registered nurse