

January 8, 1996 LB 414

SENATOR BOHLKE: Thank you, Madam President. Senator Wesely, if I could ask you a question so that I can really understand in very real life terms what we're talking about on the new wording.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Okay.

SENATOR BOHLKE: I go to a nurse practitioner and I would have, and the nurse practitioner, we have this wording "advice on," and I would say I have a excruciating headache and a temperature of 102. And so the nurse practitioner would say that a number of us have experienced that as we've had the onset of the flu recently. But the advice of the physician would be that perhaps it could be meningitis. The nurse practitioner may disagree. At that point, the nurse practitioner would be able to make the ultimate decision to do the further tests for spinal meningitis or to decide that i', you know, I could go home and that it more than likely was the onset of the flu.

SENATOR WESELY: Well, again, it gets complicated. You're getting back a bit to Senator Chambers' question, but you'll have...

SENATOR BOHLKE: Oh, that's unfortunate (laughs).

SENATOR WESELY: But the question you're asking is, do you have to accept the advice? The question is you shall need to get...

SENATOR BOHLKE: No, no, no, I'm not asking if I have to accept, I'm talking about the patient, okay. Who would accept the advice, the patient?

SENATOR WESELY: Well, you were talking about whether the nurse would do what the doctor...

SENATOR BOHLKE: Would accept advice, okay.

SENATOR WESELY: ...said or whether they'd just send them home. So the question, that's really the crux of your question. The answer is that you have two elements that overcome what Senator Chambers argued was a problem. Number one, you have a practice