

would have the communication and should the doctor, being given the information over the phone by the nurse for instance, have a concern, well, obviously the nurse would respond to that and have that doctor see the patient and take a look more closely. But that's, that's the collaboration, that's the communication we hope to achieve even with the amendment that's offered by Senator Withem and myself.

SENATOR JONES: You could see that work in either way? I would see it working better if it is advice on (inaudible) direction of.

SENATOR WESELY: Oh, absolutely, yeah. My point is that there'd still be that connection to the physician even with the amendment we're offering. Without it you'd have an even tighter hold that would be more difficult to have the independent sort of practice, not completely that we, people would like, but a little more independence to allow that flexibility in rural areas that you would like to see.

SENATOR JONES: Thank you. I think I'm going to come down and support this amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Senator Jones. Senator Vrtiska.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. I'd like to also ask either Senator Withem or Senator Wesely a question if I could to clear up some of the thoughts that I have if it's possible.

SENATOR WILL: Senator Wesely, would you respond.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Senator Wesely, I'm having a real problem. I've been on the side of this bill since it came up from the standpoint of allowing nurse practitioners to practice a degree of medicine. Last night after the debate was here I called the doctors who had written to me originally and who opposed this legislation who are now...who are now supportive of it. The only difference is is that we allude to PAs who now work with doctors and it's my understand and I need your correction, it's my understanding that they do, in fact, serve under the direction of a physician, is that correct?

SENATOR WESELY: Yes.