

January 25, 1996 LB 414

CLERK: Senator Withem would move to amend with AM2914, Senator.
(See pages 610-11 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER WITHEM: Okay, this is a set of other largely technical amendments. As I understand the source of these, after the white copy of the bill was received from Bill Drafters, this was sent over to the Department of Health to ask them to do a review of the bill for technical compliance types of comments. And these are the sort of things they came back with. Things like on page 12, line 4 and 8, adding the words "advanced registered" before the term "nurse practitioners". That's the legal terminology for that. Deletes the term "scope of practice" and replaces it with "Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner Act". Deletes "application" and capitalizes "Requirements". These are the sort of things. There is one that is slightly more substantive and it really, it codifies existing practice and there is no disagreement of anybody outside the glass that has an interest in this bill. It...page 32 it deletes Section 31 and replaces it with language that reorganizes. The section's a little easier to follow. And most importantly what it does, it specifies that advanced registered nurse practitioners that do not have a master's degree will only be allowed to practice in the women's health field. This is currently the situation and we're only going to specify it in statute. What...you may have heard, in the early debate on this when you were receiving faxes and letters from the doctors saying don't advance LB 414 because it, it will allow these nurses who have only, that don't even have a master's degree, who only have, what was it, Senator Wesely, six months of training beyond the high school, to do all of these advanced procedures. We explained, no, that's not the case because the only ones that are, that don't have master's degrees now are ones practicing in the women's health field. And all this does is codify that. The Medical Association felt more comfortable codifying this, as I understand. The nurses' organization has no problems with codifying it. That is the most substantive thing in this amendment. I would urge you to adopt these amendments.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Withem. On the Withem amendment, Senator Dierks.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Madam President and members of the body. I have a question I believe for Senator Wesely.