

February 20, 1996 LB 414

SPEAKER WITHEM: Yes, Madam President, members of the body, I'd ask that LB 414 be returned from E & R Engrossing. We never did have the bill printed and finally advanced to Final Reading because we knew an amendment was coming. If you remember, 414 is the advanced registered nurse practitioner bill. The debate, the fight on this was on General File. We did have an amendment on Select File that was agreed to by both the nurse practitioners and the doctors who were the two combatants in this measure. We also...that amendment, evidently, didn't clarify everything that needs to be clarified. This amendment is primarily a clarification amendment. I'll tell you where the caveat is there. There is a provision in here that does raise fees, but these are fees that are paid by the advanced registered nurse practitioners, necessary to do this to fund the board that is being created. And the advanced registered nurse practitioners are supportive of raising the fees on themselves. The other thing that we did, if you remember on...one of the things that we did with amendments that came out of committee on General File was the need to create a board, the Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner Board. That was supported by the body, supported by the doctors, supported by the nurse practitioners. We did, when we started juxtaposing that language with the other boards, we found that there was language in the bill that caused these registered nurse practitioners to come under the...three different boards for various aspects of their work. This amendment really takes the Board of Medicine out, and the doctors, I understand, are supportive of doing that. It then...and clarifies the duties between the nursing board and this new board, the Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners Board. That's the two things it does, it clarifies the board language, it also raises the fees that the nurses will be paying in order to fund their board, and it also, third thing it does is it changes throughout the bill the title "nurse practitioner" to "advanced registered nurse practitioner". I would urge your support...your return of the bill and the adoption of the amendment.

SENATOR COORDSEN PRESIDING

SENATOR COORDSEN: There are no lights on. Senator Withem, did you wish to close on your motion to return? Senator Withem waives. The issue before the body is the return of LB 414 to Select File for the purpose of an amendment. Those in favor