

that loan for each student is \$15,000, that loan repayment. Health profession shortages usually are most generally in rural areas, though underserved urban areas are eligible as well. So it can be utilized in the urban area if it's underserved. I think it's important for us to realize the importance of this, that Nebraska have access to a full range of health professionals, and this bill would provide that experience. I wish you would support the bill to Select File. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Dierks, there are no lights on. Do you have closing? Closing is waived. Question is, shall LB 373 be advanced? All in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Record.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of 373.

SPEAKER WITHEM: (LB) 373 is advanced. LB 373A.

CLERK: (LB) 373A, Mr. President, was introduced by Senator Dierks. (Read title.) I do have an amendment from Senator Dierks, found on page 1208 of the Journal, Mr. President. (AM3762)

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Dierks.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Members of the Legislature, this amendment is one that was brought to conform the A bill to LB 1044, pure and simple. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Probably, we should have recognized you to open on the bill and then offer the amendment. So if we could back up, you could explain the bill, and then we'll proceed to the amendment.

SENATOR DIERKS: Okay, thank you, Mr. Speaker. Members of the body, LB 373A is the A bill for LB 373. It amounts to \$90,000 for each of the next two fiscal years. And its use is to pay for the loan repayment process for these health care professionals we're adding with LB 373--pharmacy students, dental students, and physical and occupational therapy students.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Dierks. Senator Schellpeper, on the Dierks amendment.