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LB 906, 929

of practice in any way, but it clarifies and codifies the OT practice into statute. It enumerates what functions an occupational therapist can perform, and what an occupational therapist assistant is allowed to do under the supervision of an occupational therapist, and establishes guidelines and qualifications for an occupational therapist that uses physical agent modalities. The bill is...was, as Senator Jensen said, approved through the 407 process. The 407 process, as you know, is a process of a group of people who are licensed medical practitioners in a number of fields who look at all of the issues, both pro and con. The Nebraska Medical Association, the physical therapists, others have approved this legislation. I would ask for you to approve Senator Jensen's amendment, AM2724, and I would give the balance of my time to Senator Cunningham.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Cunningham, about 6, 53.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Thank you, Senator Byars. As Senator Jensen informed you...oh, and thank you, Senator Cudaback and members. As Senator Jensen informed you, this is LB 929, a bill that I introduced before the Health and Human Services Committee. This amendment makes a number of technical changes relating to controlled substances and the pharmacy practice act (sic). And I would tell you this bill came out of committee unanimously and it had no opponents. Now, most all of the bill is clarifying language. There are two sections that are a little more than that and I will explain those two sections to you. And in Sections...actually in Sections 2, 5, and 6, it's referring to pharmacist interns, and it recognizes that a pharmacist intern may be a graduate of a pharmacy program located outside of the United States, which is not accredited, but who has successfully passed an equivalency examine approved by the Board of Pharmacy. It also allows that a pharmacist intern up to 15 months to earn the required internship hours. And then Section 9 removes the existing restrictions on the ability of pharmacy technicians to receive oral authorization to refill prescriptions. Now pharmacy technicians currently are only authorized to perform tasks which do not require professional judgment and which are subject to verification to assist a pharmacist in the practice of pharmacy. And that's pretty much the extent of the bill, mostly clarifying language,