

May 6, 1975

PRESIDENT: Senator Barnett.

SENATOR BARNETT: I've got a question of Senator Kennedy.

SENATOR KENNEDY: Yes, certainly.

SENATOR BARNETT: I'm reading the committee statement. In the second paragraph it says the intent of LB 571 is for the expansion of physician education and training immediately following the receipt of the M.D. degree. What are you doing to accept students into the program after they take their pre-med? Now I could be wrong, but the M.D. degree is not the pre-med program, is it?

SENATOR KENNEDY: No.

SENATOR BARNETT: The first four years are you coming up and saying we're going to make more room for more students, or is that program not being changed at all?

SENATOR KENNEDY: There has been an increase for more students. This is not to do that. As I understand this would be in a residency program, giving those an opportunity to take general practitioner practice after they receive their M.D.

SENATOR BARNETT: So we're not helping the students that is taking the four-year program at the University of Nebraska then applying for the medical school and not being able to get into the program because it is small? We're not talking about that person?

SENATOR KENNEDY: It's my understanding this program would . . . no we're not. It was my understanding this program would try and keep more of our graduating M.D.'s in a residence within the State of Nebraska so that they would not go to other states to finish their residency program. Does that answer your question?

SENATOR BARNETT: I think so, but in cooperation with this you, as the Chairman of the Public Health and Safety Committee . . .

SENATOR KENNEDY: Welfare.

SENATOR BARNETT: Excuse me, Public Health and Safety is what I'm thinking of. Public Health and Welfare Committee, do you see any changes in the future? Have you seen any legislation proposed? Is there anyway at all that they're going to expand this program to accept more students? Is anybody even concerned about it?

SENATOR KENNEDY: I think in the years that I've been here we've been extremely concerned and have worked to try and do that. They have increased some.

SENATOR BARNETT: What do you mean by some?