

up... Senator Higgins brought up quite eloquently the fact that insurance rates are not out of line for our doctors, for our hospitals. The most, the most that any M.D. has to pay for medical malpractice insurance is paid by a neurosurgeon, a neurosurgeon. They make about, anywhere from \$750,000 to \$1.5 million a year. Their insurance costs are about \$3,300 a year, folks, \$3,300 a year and just because we repealed this that does not mean, it does not mean, that insurance rates will rise. They are on the rise now. The insurance companies are collecting \$19 million for medical malpractice insurance. The only way that the doctors and the hospitals are going to control the insurance problem, if there is one, which I don't think there is one, I don't think the figures show that there is one, but the only way they are going to control these insurance companies' greed is by getting together and quit letting the insurance companies pull them in to this little facade by saying this act is going to keep their costs down. The insurance companies want this, not the doctors, the greedy insurance companies and it is hurting the citizens of Nebraska. It is time we repealed it and I'd ask for your vote. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The question is the return of the bill for an amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk. Senator Kilgarin.

SENATOR KILGARIN: I would ask for a record vote.

CLERK: (Record vote read as found on pages 2193-2194 of the Legislative Journal.) 15 ayes, 26 nays, Mr. President, on the motion to return.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The motion fails. May I introduce some guests of Senator Vickers under the south balcony, please. We have Doyle and Kay LaVene of Bertrand, Nebraska, and their sons, Jason, Justin and Jeremy. Would you please stand and be recognized? Thank you. Do you have anything else on the bill?

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Clark had amendments but Senator Clark wishes to withdraw those. Senator Schmit