

April 9, 1984

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surely warrants what they are asking for. There has been suggestions about the terrible things that could happen. I just want to say that any optometrist that would exceed his training would have to be a very foolish person in this day and age with malpractice suits. If that doesn't keep a doctor in line, nothing else will anyway. Any time that an optometrist would exceed his training and he had a case filed against him, he just as well be ready to pay up because he would automatically be assessed the charges that were filed against him. The optometrists have, as I want to repeat, according to the Journal of Medical Education, the optometrists have much more training than most of your medical doctors do in eye care and I think that we should support this bill. Thank you.

SENATOR KAHLE: Senator Landis. Senator Landis is coming.

SENATOR LANDIS: Just trading the check book with my wife, don't you know. I don't like these fights. I feel very ill-prepared to judge the reasonableness of the boundaries between these professions. But unfortunately it is something that we get called upon to do. My purpose in speaking today is to do two things. I did have a chance to review, at least peruse this document which was referred to the other day and that is the two hundred cases of supposed optometric mishandling of cases in North Carolina. And upon reflection I find little probity to this evidence. It is a self-serving document. It is not a report to an impartial board. It appears to be ophthalmologists reporting cases to their own professional headquarters, if you will, their society, that they have seen in the field that they think are questionable. There is no follow-up as far as I can tell, and I think you can reconcile these facts, in which they subsequently made a complaint to the State Health Department or to a Board of Examiners but that in seeing the situation from their point of view they followed these cases along to their own society. There was no chance for the person who is referred to in this case to confront their accuser. There is no chance for an impartial observer to say whether or not the accusations are true, and rather than documented cases, I think it is only fair to call them at best allegations, unproven allegations from one point of

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