

professionals relocating in the health profession shortage area to qualify for the loan repayment program, and it makes several other harmonizing changes, in addition to technical and clean-up changes. So, the amendment is done at the request of bill drafters to correlate this legislation with that of Senator Schellpeper's. I urge your acceptance.

SENATOR CROSBY: You've heard the opening. Discussion on the Dierks amendment? Senator Schellpeper.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Yes, Madam Chairman and members, I rise to support the Dierks amendment. I think it's needed in order to correlate with everything else. I'd like to ask Senator Dierks a question, if I might. If you recall on General...

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Dierks, will you answer? Will you respond?

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: ...Senator Dierks, we talked about the funding for LB 373 of \$90,000. Has anything been done with that?

SENATOR DIERKS: As near as I know, the...the people who are very interested in having this bill advanced are talking right now with the Governor's Office. So,...

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Thank you. Senator Wesely, is there anything that you know about the funding for this bill? Have you talked to anyone that the \$90,000 will be there?

SENATOR WESELY: Senator...

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: If you'd answer, please.

SENATOR WESELY: Senator Schellpeper, I know that the feeling is that if the funding isn't there, that the bill shouldn't be signed. So,...but I haven't heard a confirmation as to support or opposition on the funding aspect, but...

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Okay.

SENATOR WESELY: ..I do think that they need to be linked. You don't want to expand the coverage...