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licensed to a higher standard, but still will be eligible for Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement for the services that they do offer. It should make it possible for many of the smaller communities in the state to tailor the medical services that are delivered in their community to their specific needs, and at the same time be able to participate in Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Wesely, to speak on the bill.

SENATOR WESELY: Mr. President, members, I rise in support of LB 837. I want to commend Senator Wickersham for the bill. It will obviously give an option to our rural hospitals, they'll be called Limited Service Rural Hospitals. In some cases their survival is dependent upon the passage of the bill. We're only talking about a handful, at most, of hospitals that would qualify and need this; right now only one that we're aware of that would need it very quickly. But it does indicate that as tough times come and changes in our medical field and our health care field, we want to maintain our rural hospitals, if at all possible, and this gives them an option they don't have now. I'm pleased that we have the bill. I'm pleased that Senator Wickersham introduced it, and that hopefully we will pass it. I rise in support of LB 837.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Wickersham, there are no further lights. Senator Wickersham waives closing. The question before you is the advancement of LB 837. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Mr. Clerk, please record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of LB 837.

SENATOR BEUTLER: LB 837 advances. Mr. Clerk, LB 307.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 307, introduced by Senator Wesely. (Read title.) The bill was introduced, Mr. President, on January 14 of this year, referred to the Health Committee for public hearing. The bill was advanced to General File. I do have Health and Human Services Committee amendments.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Wesely, do you wish first to address