

Clerk reading. There are no amendments.

SPEAKER: Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Well, Mr. President, I'd renew the motion to advance the bill. This is the bill, if you'll recall, to remove the statutory ceiling on the salary for the Director of Health and it would then become a matter of putting the limitation within the Appropriations bill on personal services if the Legislature chose to do so. There were some questions that came up the other day which I could perhaps comment on--one was why it would be necessary to have an M.D. as Director of Health. It's my understanding now that both the Nebraska statutes as well as some of the Federal programs administered by the Department of Health indicate or require a medical doctor to be the head, in fact, they did have a temporary interim director at one time which, the Board of Health was advised they had to discontinue this particular person because he would not qualify under the Federal statutes and again, it seems to me it's more reasonable way to handle the legislation if, if it's controlled in the budget rather than statutory provisions.

SPEAKER: Senator Whitney.

SENATOR WHITNEY: Mr. President and Members of the Legislature. When this present director was hired sometime back, he was hired at the maximum salary which is permitted by law. Now, it's normally expected that the salaries of directors, state employees will be increased from time to time and so, it would appear that this bill is needed in order that we do make it possible to increase his salary. Now members of the board were before the Committee on Committees recently and they are very responsible men and I feel that we would be doing a service to the State of Nebraska to have this bill passed.

SPEAKER: Senator Carpenter.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Well, I have no objection to the bill. I think it is a good philosophy if that's what it is. Now we understand in similar situations, we are going to permit other people to do the same thing which I am in favor of. We're giving these people a blank check--nothing wrong with that to do because they are responsible people and I presume everyone in State Government is responsible until proven otherwise. Now, personally I think this man ought to get \$40 or \$45,000 a year, because any doctor that wants to practice, that's the minimum, that's the minimum. Maybe they got a money machine going for them and you can't expect to dedication of a man to preclude that in order to serve the State in this capacity, but I, I am presuming that if you pass this, which I am going to vote for, with no limitation, that you will not object to other things in a like position when they come on this floor and I can assure you they will.

SPEAKER: Senator Duis.

SENATOR DUIS: Mr. President, I'm certainly going to support it too and I'm very glad Senator Whitney has done this because I feel as though when he desires to spend some more money for this, that this is really fine. I certainly hope and I'm a great deal like Senator Carpenter--when the rest of these come up here, I think these other gentlemen who are in these other fields that are apparently and should be expertise in it, that they also too should receive like treatment.

SPEAKER: Senator Carstens.

SENATOR CARSTENS: Mr. President, I'd like to ask Senator Warner a question if I may, if he'll yield.