

March 27, 1973

(Begin Belt #15)

Clerk reading. There are no committee amendments. There is an amendment offered by Senator Goodrich, in line 1, correction, in Section 1, line 23 (read)

PRESIDENT: Is Senator Goodrich in the chamber? Senator Stahmer, do you want to handle the amendment?

SENATOR STAHMER: Mr. President, I wanted to raise some other question about the bill, to see if it covers one thing and I wanted to ask Senator Goodrich, would it be possible to pass this over(mike off)--

PRESIDENT: He's here. Go ahead. Ask your question. Senator Goodrich, will you yield to a question?

SENATOR GOODRICH: Yes.

SENATOR STAHMER: Senator Goodrich, the only question I had is, as you know, we have the Douglas, in Douglas County, the combined City-County Health Department and the wording in the first sentence of this bill, it adequately covers that situation does it, I presume?

SENATOR GOODRICH: What this bill does is it, in the metropolitan class cities which would be Omaha, we now have the right to have a city council hire or contract with a visiting nurses' association for a service to the community, of a nursing service to the community. The bill itself does nothing but strike metropolitan cities and city council and says, any city, village, county or township, the governing board may employ a visiting nurse or employ a visiting nurses' association or any charitable, philanthropic association to perform the duties contemplated in this section. In other words, to provide nurses, visiting nurses service to the community. Now where they do not have in the small communities like this, that we're inserting here, the cities of the first, second and villages, these classes, we do not have visiting nurses' associations and frankly, the hospital association came along and asked, would we care to insert; or the local hospital and if, for example, the local governing board wants to, they could then contract with the local hospital to furnish this service where there wasn't a nurse or a visiting nurse or anything like that. This what we have to decide. It's your decision to make gentlemen, and I would move the adoption of the amendment.

PRESIDENT: Now, Senator Stahmer, does that answer your question, your inquiry? All right. We have Senator Goodrich's amendment before us and that's really what we're discussing. Senator Carpenter, do you want to be heard on the Goodrich amendment?

SENATOR CARPENTER: Well would he read it, I didn't--

PRESIDENT: All right. Will the Clerk read the Goodrich amendment please?

CLERK: The amendment is: (read)

SENATOR CARPENTER: Or licensed hospital?

CLERK: Yes.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Well, I'd like to ask Senator Goodrich a couple of questions.

PRESIDENT: Senator Goodrich, will you yield to a question?

SENATOR GOODRICH: Okay. Yes.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Well now, why are you, how many nurses does it take in the City of Omaha now? Where it's in operation?