

April 3, 1974

SENATOR MOYLAN: Mr. President, and members of the Legislature. The amendment was recommended by Judge Novicoff which keeps the present language in the law which makes the power of the court clear over a doctor's charges, and that will help provide court control over any bills which might be claimed excessive. Now that tends to make the bill much more acceptable I think for everyone, especially to the courts...the Judges. I had it passed out on the desks here a little while ago, a copy of the amendment. And there isn't too much more to say on this bill than I had said before. It's for humanitarian reasons, really that I accepted this bill to be introduced. It has been in for session after session, but never been brought to the floor. For discussion before. Now we're not setting a precedence here at all because there are four states already. There are have accepted such legislation, they are Oklahoma, Texas, Minnesota, and New York. And the real reason that I think anyone should be able..be permitted to chose their own doctor and go to their family doctor, is that they have confidence and as I said before, and I feel anyone who will recover more rapidly. And be back on the job sooner if they are allowed to go to their own doctor. Instead of being forced to go to some strange doctor that doesn't know their personal health, they don't know the run down of their past history on health and they don't have confidence in them. When you have a family doctor, it is not only a doctor it's also a counselor, generally. Because he can counsel you on many subjects that come up that affect your physical well being. So I would urge that this bill be advanced to E & R for Initial.

PRESIDENT: Senator Nore.

SENATOR NORE: I pass.

PRESIDENT: Senator Nore passes. Senator Kennedy.

SENATOR KENNEDY: Mr. Speaker, and fellow members, very briefly we asked questions when this was heard in the committee. Has there ever been a problem for an employer furnishing a personal doctor or doctor by their request, then we were answered that no if that request was made they could go to that doctor, but the problem is someone has to have jurisdiction over how far are you going to send this person and who is going to pay for the total expenses. Where this doctor might be. Is there another doctor available that has the same qualittite and quantities of service. But I think again, we're over doing, because we are getting into something where there is no problem. Now there may be two or three other states that have this, I'm not sure of that part. But I know that we have had not had a problem in this catagory in the state and I think we're just probably just getting into a can of worms which will not give the employer the cance to cooperate with these employees.

PRESIDENT: Senator Keyes.

SENATOR KEYES: Mr. President, I will take very little time. Senator Kennedy, we do have aproblem in the state Of Nebraska. It happened with my son. His finger was almost sawed into, his little finger. He had to go to the company doctor, which was all right. He told me this winter after he left the company, he lives in Iowa now. That his finger, he can't stand the cold in the wintertime. He has to come down to the company doctor in Omaha to have these services. He's going to have the finger removed. Now he would like to go to his own doctor at home. It also affects Industrial