

are no committee amendments.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Do you move the advancement of the bill?

SENATOR MARESH: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I move that LB 34 be advanced from General File to E & R Initial.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Is there a second to the motion? Okay, you have the floor, Senator Maresh.

SENATOR MARESH: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, last year I had LB 844 which did approximately about the same thing and it was held up because we wanted to give the Department of Health time to study the situation to see if Canadian doctors should be allowed to come to Nebraska and be recognized in the same fashion that our graduates from our school that take the examination here. Canada's examinations compare very favorably to ours and this was called to my attention by a doctor that he and his partner were considering to locate in Nebraska. Crete was one community and Hebron another community that they were interested in and in the fall of 1977 the doctor in Crete sent me a copy of the letter that he received from the Canadian doctor which stated: "Dear Doctor Quick: Dr. Carlson and I have decided that we shall not settle in Nebraska. This is mainly due to the fact that your state does not recognize the Medical Council of Canada's written examination which is basically the same as the FLEX examination, in fact they are made by the same corporation in the U.S.A. We have decided that since some thirty states accept the L.M.C.C. we shall settle in one of these. It is too bad that good quality physicians are excluded from where they are needed in Nebraska. We thank you and Mr. Bors for the interest that you have taken in us." I drafted the legislation last year and as I said, the committee heard the bill and we decided to hold it to have some facts from the Department of Health to see if Canada's examinations do in fact compare to Nebraska's and Rex Higley from the State Licensing Board did report to the committee during the interim. I had a resolution to study the situation and after he reported to the committee that it is favorable, I decided to not hold the hearing on this resolution and instead have Rex Higley help with drafting this bill. He appeared at the hearing on this legislation and did testify for the bill and as you will see, we also have a letter from the Department of Institutions from Dr. Hartman in which he says that the Department of Institutions could use this legislation to get doctors to work