

these things need to be discussed on floor. I think the public is entitled to know. I think individual senators are entitled to know exactly all the ramifications of these bills. I personally don't care if the optometrists and the medical association, and whoever else sat out in some room this weekend and what deal they did make, because it's not going to restrict me from speaking out on these bills, or speaking out in behalf of the people I represent in an attempt to represent them in the best way possible. I support the bill. I support LB 9. I'm on public record as supporting the bill, and I told people this weekend that I would support the bill, and this was not necessarily easy in a lot of instances when MD's and other people had called me. But I also said that I'm going to make very sure that this bill is intended to do what it was purported to us that it's supposed to do, and that's to allow optometrists to diagnose and diagnose only. I think with the discussion that we got from Senator Clark, who has practiced pharmacy 25 or 30 years ago, and his knowledge from that background of pharmacology, I think that we know miotics are maybe used for diagnosis, but certainly a small percentage, and certainly in those acute dangerous areas, in those acute dangerous areas, I don't think an optometrist is qualified or should even be involved with miotics. So I would strongly urge the adoption of this amendment, and then the passage of this bill.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Kelly, do you wish to speak to the Dworak amendment?

SENATOR KELLY: Mr. Speaker, members of the Nebraska Unicameral Legislature, I would speak to the Dworak amendment to strike the word "miotic", and I would support that amendment even though I don't know what miotic is, but I have been informed by Dr. Bob Proffitt of Grand Island, Nebraska in detail on a twenty minute telephone conversation explaining to me what miotic is, which is a very unusual drug that is used only in a specific case to diagnose a specific eye disease. He further stated to me that there is a danger in using a miotic...something to do with causing blindness that has to do with the ocular angular angle. Please understand, dear colleagues, I'm a plumber by profession, and I can talk to that with authority, but I cannot talk to mydriatics. I cannot talk to miotics, and we're over our head. We have, in this state, a Department of Health, a Board of Optometry, a Board of Medics...we've got all kinds of boards that handle problems of this nature, and sticking words of this nature in the statutes bothers me. Are we here to determine what it is an optometrist is qualified to do? I hope not. When we have a Department of Health and a licensing board and a board that's going to certify