

March 6, 1980

LB 847

a license, excuse me, it is necessary that they bring us a certain kind of form. Senator Kelly: Then in the instance of where you would be issuing permits for 1980 rather than licenses, this has a potential of signifying to somebody that these people are not really fullfledged nurse's license holders, is that correct? Mrs. Pavelka: Yes, that could be. Senator Kelly: Does this have any potential chance of injuring Nebraska citizens if somebody is working under the permit system and, say, they decide to go to Missouri and they don't have a current Nebraska license, they just have a permit, is that going to injure that person? Mrs. Pavelka: I cannot answer that question, Senator Kelly. Senator Kelly: What do you think? Mrs. Pavelka: I am concerned about it. It will be up to the licensing authority in the other states to decide but that is an unanswered question." The point that we would have going in this question is that after five years of attempting to implement rules and regulations, write them and get them approved and follow the law, the State Nursing Board failed to accomplish its stated statutory purpose following in protecting the public health by licensure of nurses in Nebraska. Now Mrs. Pavelka testified that the board was not aware....

SPEAKER MARVEL: One minute.

SENATOR KELLY: ...of the true effective date of LB 658 until September 3, 1979. This means that the board had approximately four years in which to inquire of someone as to what the words "after January 1, 1980" meant. Ladies and gentlemen of the Unicameral, there is only one health provider in the State of Nebraska that is not examined by the Bureau of Examiners and that is the nurses. LB 847 changes this and gives the nurses the exact same advantages as all of the other health providers. At a later date, I will read, or at a later time today I will read the list to you. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Johnson, do you wish to speak to the...?

SENATOR JOHNSON: Yes. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask Senator Cullan a couple of questions. Senator Cullan, your notes show that Mr. Ted Schultz of the Nebraska Health Care Association, Mr. Roger Keetle of the Nebraska Hospital Association were the only two persons speaking on behalf of LB 847. What were the motivations on behalf of this bill, if you know?