

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the Legislature. It is a rather lengthy resolution but it is one which I think can easily be explained as attempting to deal with one area of potential overregulation of private industry in the State of Nebraska. We have seen, and if you look at the handout I passed out the last couple of pages will list for you a number of occupational groups in this state that are now licensed. This resolution does not deal with those but it does raise the question of whether we need all the licensure that we have had in different occupational groups in this state for the future as far as new groups coming to us asking for additional licensure. All we are trying to do in this is set a tone and the tone says this if this resolution is passed, that we won't license a new group until we are pretty sure that that group needs to be licensed, that we are sure that licensing is the best interest of the general public, not just in the best interest of the group asking for that licensure. I think it is a reasonable step to take and it is one that has been taken by a number of states across this country. In other states they have adopted laws that have set up a very comprehensive rather cumbersome process whereby they have to go through the state department of health or some other department, have to be screened when they want to be licensed and have to go through a whole bureaucratic red tape mess before they can get to the Legislature. I don't think we need to do something like that to deal with the issue of should we or should we not license different occupational groups. This is a less cumbersome but I think a very effective step to take to try and deal with that issue of just passing the resolution. It sets a tone. It can be used by you individually. It can be used by us as a body, but it is nonbinding; it is just an attempt to try and declare for the general public and the state that we are going to take a careful look at licensure, that we are going to review new licensing requests and that we will be very careful when we do adopt new regulations on different occupational groups. I think it is a tone that we have seen demanded by the general public in the vote this last November, that they don't want to see regulation of groups just for the sake of regulation. They want to see regulation that is necessary and wise and prudent, and I think that this resolution only asks that that be the case when we ever adopt new licensing regulations on any occupational group that is not now licensed. If you look at the handout that I have, the first page will basically reiterate what I