

April 8, 1981

LB 249

SENATOR CLARK: The bill is advanced. LB 11. All right, we are going to revert back to 249 because Senator Cullan wasn't here originally.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 249 was introduced by Senator Samuel Cullan. (Read title.) The bill was first read on January 16. It was referred to Public Health and Welfare for hearing. The bill was advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments by the Public Health and Welfare Committee pending, Mr. President.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Cullan.

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I guess initially I would move for adoption of the committee amendments to LB 249. The committee amendments do three things. First of all, they reinstate the name of the Board of Health as the Board of Health rather than an advisory board. Secondly, the original LB 249 moved the Health Planning function from the Department of Health to the Department of Public Institutions. The committee amendment amends LB 249 so that the planning function of the Department of Health is retained by that Department. And, thirdly, this leaves the Board of Health with the current statutory authority and decision making responsibilities so far as licensure matters are concerned as far as Bureau of Examining Boards within the Department of Health is concerned. The Bureau of Examining Boards is that bureau of the Department of Health responsible for licensing health care practitioners. That would include nurses, physicians, doctors, I guess the whole range, physical therapists, the whole range of health care professionals and practitioners and this leaves the Board of Health making the ultimate decision upon those licensure matters and does not change the statutory authority...or reinstates the statutory authority of the Board of Health in that regard. So I would urge your adoption of the committee amendments.

SENATOR CLARK: Is there any discussion on the committee amendments to LB 249? If not, all those in favor vote aye, all those opposed vote nay.

CLERK: Senator Clark voting aye.

SENATOR CLARK: Record the vote.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays on adoption of the Public Health and Welfare committee amendments, Mr. President.

SENATOR CLARK: The committee amendments are adopted. Senator Cullan on the bill. Explain the bill.