

April 5, 1982

LB 378A, 547

would like to print amendments to LB 547 in the Legislative Journal. (See page 1630 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR CLARK: The next bill is LB 378A.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 378A is a bill on Select File, Mr. President. I do have an amendment from Senators Wesely and Warner to the bill.

SENATOR LAMB: Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, Senator Warner and I are moving to amend this A bill because of the fact that in working with the fiscal office we felt that the present A bill did not adequately fund the added expenditures that LB 378 would result in. In working with the fiscal office, if you do look at the fiscal note on the bill you will see that the present A bill which allows for \$20,000 falls about \$22 some thousand short of what is estimated to be the cost of this legislation. Furthermore, the Health Department itself has said that an additional \$20,000 above that is even what is required but the fiscal office says \$40,000 is about what is needed, \$42,275. This A bill is now at \$20,000 and in trying to make up for that difference Senator Warner and I are proposing this amendment which would bring it up to where the fiscal note says the impact would be. That is the amendment.

SENATOR LAMB: Senator Cullan.

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I would rise to oppose the Wesely amendment. I would point out that Nebraska is already, in my opinion, ridiculously overstaffed in the area of health planning and I see no reason to provide additional funds for additional health planners here in the State of Nebraska. I think the cash fund which is proposed in LB 378 is more than adequate. I would point out that currently the State of Nebraska has twenty health planners or one health planner for every 78,000 people. The State of Missouri which is about three times the population of the State of Nebraska has nine health planners or one health planner for every 546,383 people. So it is clear that even if our staff was cut in half we would be about twice as overstaffed as the State of Missouri. So I see absolutely no need for additional funds to be spent for additional personnel in the Department of Health. I know that the amendments which I proposed will more than adequately cover the expenses of travel and other expenses associated with carrying out the certificate of need program so I strenuously object to any additional funds being spent on certificate of need. Senator Wesely failed to