

doing this today and they are reporting even the Cancer Research we report, they concur with them, they are. I guess the question now becomes, do we really need the Cancer Registry program that is being done voluntarily and is in place and being financed by the American Medical Association or the doctors of this state. So until Senator Johnson or Senator Cullan can answer these questions, I might have to pose what they are attempting to do right now.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Haberman, your light is still on. Did you want to talk? Senator Vard Johnson.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Yes, Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I really would like to respond to Senator Koch. He raises an excellent question but the point is this. He has been told that the Nebraska Medical Association is in the process of developing a voluntary tumor registry system and they have put some money up for the system and given that fact, is LB 212 a necessary piece of legislation? Now my answer is very simple. LB 212 is a comprehensive system that covers all health facilities in the state, not just those that volunteer to participate. It would cover the Veteran's Hospital for example in Omaha which reports a number of cancers which no longer participates in any kind of a tumor registry program. It covers a lot of hospitals in this state that don't even have little tumor registries of their own. So we'll pick up a considerable amount of data that really is not currently available but you know I have never been critical of something that is being worked out privately. Now I can guarantee you from the bottom of my heart that the Nebraska Medical Association would have done nothing in terms of putting together a Cancer Registry program but for the fact that LB 212 was introduced, advanced from committee and moved on the floor of this Legislature. In fact you have a letter on your desks to exactly that effect. I think that the writer, Orin Hayes, knows that the only reason that the Medical Association has even begun to put together a private registry system it is because of the existence of this bill. Now my feeling is this. We are going to delay the implementation date for one year, Senator Koch. That is the amendment. We're going to delay it for one year and the money will come out of the cigarette tax money and that will give the Medical Association a chance, a bona fide opportunity to get their system together, fully in place and for us to look to see how effective it is, how complete it is and the like and if they have a full system together, then we can take another look at 212 next year but without this goad, that won't necessarily get done.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Cullan, did you want to close? All right the question before the House is the return of