

CLERK: Yes, sir. Mr. President, LB 407 was introduced by the Public Health and Welfare Committee and signed by its members. (Title read.) The bill was first read on January 18 of this year. It was referred to the Public Health and Welfare Committee for public hearing. The bill was advanced to General File. There are Standing Committee amendments, Mr. President. Senator Wesely, would you like to handle your amendment to the committee amendments, Senator, or do you want to do that at another time?

SENATOR WESELY: Why don't we just start talking about the committee amendments for a while and then I'll get to the...

PRESIDENT: May we have order in the Chamber, please, (gavel) as we begin discussion of LB 407. The Chair recognizes Senator Wesely. You may offer your amendments or your bill at this time, which ever, how you wish to proceed.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. I'll just start in on the committee amendments and then we'll get to the amendment to the committee amendments, Mr. President. With that, Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I appreciate Speaker Nichol's assistance in placing this on special order today. LB 407 is a major bill. It is a change in the way we handle licensure issues for different health professionals in the State of Nebraska. LB 407 is introduced by the Public Health and Welfare Committee in anticipation of the problems that we're having in the different licensure issues and the committee did advance the bill and we do have committee amendments and that's what we're discussing at this moment. In the bill as originally introduced we did not have an E clause, but because of the number of different licensure applicants that we now have we wanted to put the E clause on the bill and have it up as soon as possible and pass this as soon as possible so that we could have this process in effect this year so those eleven or so bills that are affected by this would have a fair chance of going through the process, have their bills held in committee and then have them considered first of next year when we start the next session with the report completed by the Department of Health. So one of the major changes in the committee amendments is to have the department start this with the E clause as soon as we pass the bill. The other thing that is fairly important is that on scope of practice which is one of the things we're talking about here, there is two different ways in which you