

the committee will be talked to by those groups that are to be competed against and they will tell those people who sit on the committee, you have got to look out for our interests in the same way that I will look out for yours when I am appointed to a committee to rule on whether somebody should be allowed to compete with you. When we talk about these health care delivery groups we are not talking, Senator Smith, about the public or the welfare of the people, we are talking about the financial interests of those health care groups. There can be all types of studies made to determine that a hospital ought not put more beds into their facility. The experts will make that determination. The beds go in anyway and the Legislature does nothing about it because a special interest group has a hold on enough legislators to get things their way. There is nothing in the law currently that formalizes the power of these special interest groups over the Legislature. This is the first step in that direction. You give through this committee that is appointed by the Director the power of life or death over these groups that want licensure. Now here is the funny thing and I have got to ask Senator Wesely for some help before I go on with it. Senator Wesely, what statutory qualifications must the Director of Health meet before being placed in that position?

SENATOR WESELY: As I understand it, the Director of Health at this time has to be a doctor, has to be a licensed physician.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: A doctor of what?

SENATOR WESELY: Medicine, I assume.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Would you say that simply because a person is a doctor of medicine he or she understands ophthalmology? Or podiatry? Or chiropractic?

SENATOR WESELY: Probably understand it better than the lay person but they don't necessarily have to be experts.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: That is not necessarily the case. Here is my question though. Do you think because a person is a medical doctor and licensed, the doctor knows about all aspects of medicine and health care?

SENATOR WESELY: A physician is a generalist in the medical