

been to make sure all sides are fairly represented. We felt that the director would do that. There is no sense in any director stacking a committee because in the end, if the committee is stacked it will be obvious to all and their recommendations will be disregarded. But because some people don't trust the bureaucratic process, I guess, and don't feel that perhaps that will be the case, we are putting into the bill, through this amendment, an attempt to make sure that, number one, the chairperson of the committee that would be appointed by the Board of Health, the Board of Health does select the chairperson from among their membership, would, number one, not be by part of any group affected by the application or either for or against it. Secondly, the members of the committee, the six members appointed by the director, would have to be balanced against one another in a way that would ensure the fair, impartial and equitable representation on that committee. We attempt to provide that language to make it clear to the director exactly what we have in mind, that no one side or the other dominates in the makeup of the technical committees. We think that will be the case no matter what. But at least this way those of you who are concerned will see it in the statute. More than that, we want to make it clear when we talk about directly or indirectly, we are trying to ensure the concerns that some of you have that it seems the medical profession in particular is worrisome. By saying indirectly, as well as directly, for instance in the situation where you may have the physical therapists and the chiropractors at each other in terms of their scope of practice, the doctors would be indirectly affected and thus would have to be included in equal representation. Also we're concerned that other groups that may not be directly affected should have no more dominance on that committee than any other group, so that everybody is fairly treated. We leave it open to the director as to how many members from what group are appointed because in each case it is a different situation. But in no event are more than two members of any one particular group to be on that seven member committee. We are trying to make sure that again no side has more than its fair share of representation. But whatever number is selected, if it is zero, or one, or two, if there is another group with an opposing viewpoint, they would have an equal representation. That is the intent of the amendment. I think it will be an assurance that we will have a fair hearing from these committees. I'd ask your support for the amendment.