

Richard Peterson. (Read title.) The bill was read on January 15 for the first time. It was referred to the Education Committee for hearing. The bill was advanced to General File, Madam President.

SENATOR MARSH: Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Madam President and members, LB 204 is our yearly or at least biannual vet school bill and there is a difference this year. My name is on the bill along with some other folks. And the reason for that is that the vet school bill this year is, in my opinion, at least, a little bit more reasonable than what it has been in the past, a little bit more reasonable because this bill says that we are going to enter into a regional agreement with an existing school of veterinary medicine, an idea that I brought to this body about five years ago and didn't find very much favor at that time. I didn't find very much favor with those folks out behind the glass doors at that time. Suddenly this year it was a wonderful idea, but it is a wonderful idea provided we go ahead and spend some funds and get some federal dollars in order to construct some capital construction, and I am not sure that I totally agree with that but we will discuss that a little bit later. Anyway, the bill itself authorizes the Board of Regents to enter into that regional agreement with an existing school, hopefully to provide some continuity to the veterinary profession, some continuity to the live rock industry, some continuity to the students of this state who want to become veterinarians, and I support that idea. I do have an amendment that I am going to discuss a little bit later, a little bit from now, but that in a nutshell is the content of the bill, Madam President, and I would be happy to answer any questions that anybody might have about it.

SENATOR MARSH: There is an amendment, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Madam President, Senator Vickers would move to amend the bill. Senator Vickers' amendment is on page 1426 of the Journal.

SENATOR MARSH: Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Madam President, the amendment on page 1426 is the amendment I just referred to and I have got a little memo being passed out that should be on your desk