

February 25, 1986 LB 267

CLERK: Mr. President, 267 was a bill introduced by Senator Vard Johnson. (Read title.) The bill was read January of last year. It was referred to the Health and Human Services Committee for a public hearing, advanced to General File. There are committee amendments by Health and Human Services.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Wesely, please.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, members, LB 267 is a long standing controversy in the state. We have had bills on dental hy...dental assistants, excuse me, before us for many years. The Dental Association has always opposed efforts to recognize them whatsoever. They have proposed under the bill originally to have the registration. The recommendation was not to provide for that registration through the 407 process but one thing was recognized by the Director of Health and that is what the committee amendment does, that dental assistants do exist, they really ought to be identified separate and apart from dental auxiliaries, that they are a legitimate entity, and so our committee amendment strikes all the bill's...that was of controversy and inserts a definition of dental assistant so for the first time in the statutes they are recognized. This is not the major step they wanted but it is a step forward and it is something agreed to by the Dental Association and the dental assistants. I would ask your support of the committee amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The question is the adoption of the amendments. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays on adoption of committee amendments.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The committee amendments are adopted. Senator Vard, are you it.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Yes, Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, with great pride I stand before you to introduce the amended bill for dental assistants. This bill as I brought it to the Public Health and Welfare Committee the last three or four years would have provided for the registration of these very valuable assistants to dentists, and so when the session began in 1986, I was pleased to learn that the committee had advanced this bill to the floor of the Legislature. However, in the last few days when