

goes. I still fundamentally believe we don't need licensure in this area at this point or at least, if we do need licensure, to do it properly has been very, very difficult to do. We've withdrawn the amendment on the nutritionists. That will be considered and perhaps amended on on Select File and so that issue really shouldn't be of concern to you at this point. But I am saying to you that before we start licensing any group, the burden of proof is on that group to show, number one, the public good that would be served and, number two, that it could be effectively administered and I am saying that Dr. Wright in the opinion that I sent around to you convinced me that that both of those criteria have not been met under this bill. If you have been confused about LB 243, if you have been uncertain about what is going on with this bill, then I suggest to you that that is exactly the situation when you deal with nutrition and dietitians and how do you license and what is not licensed and who is in and who is out and the whole area is about as confusing as you can get to. There are problems from time to time with individuals and their advice on nutrition and we all know it. There is a lot of quacks out there, but there is also an ability presently under the statute and that ability has been pursued by the Department of Health to enforce quackery in this area and there is already, just a couple of days ago they have initiated action against this type of activity and other types of activity like that. There is the police power there now for those individuals that are abusing their nutrition advice and in trying to give medical advice, using nutrition as a source of healing power or whatever. There is restrictions now in place and there is an ability to enforce anybody who strays from proper medical advice in trying to provide that improperly. So we've got the mechanism to deal with some of the problem and the bigger problem out there is so confusing, so complex that I suggest to you, if you are in doubt about this bill, and I would suggest this with most bills, vote against it and that is the way I feel about it. If you look at Dr. Wright's handout, you will see an excellent summarization of the issues. I've passed that out just a few minutes ago. It shows as you work through it how difficult it is to identify who is in and who is out of this licensure effort and his basic point is that right now dietitians who are the primary proponents of the bill can receive recognition as registered dietitians nationally. And so if you want to go to somebody who is qualified and know that they're qualified, all you have to do is ask if