

strong argument in favor of the bill in the past and I am not sure that that is a very valid argument. What may be more of a valid argument is the point that they maybe have got the talent and the skills and the training and may be able to handle the situation but that is not completely sure. There is a gray area there. Some people say yes, some people say no, and until some more confidence is found in the ability of the optometrists across the state to handle this activity, I think we ought to move slowly and not to advance the bill.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Thank you. Senator Remmers, please.

SENATOR REMMERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I rise to oppose this amendment. Senators Johnson and Hoagland are always very eloquent but I think usually their arguments are more substantive than they have been this afternoon. We have had a lot of generalities, some scare stories, that I don't think can be supported. I think that Senator Chronister addressed the issue very well. I am not going to dwell on it but I hope that the body was listening carefully to the opposition and realize that there wasn't anything new there except some more scare stories that really don't have much substance. I would urge you to...on this amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Thank you. Senator Morehead, please.

SENATOR MOREHEAD: Mr. President and members of the body, I also rise to oppose this amendment and to ask that you not only oppose the amendment but that you advance the bill. The caution to move slowly many times is well heeded but I think we have done just that. We have not only moved slowly but we have moved very painstakingly. We have submitted this legislation to the review process, to people who are, in fact, qualified, absence of fear because they know they are qualified to make the decisions that were demanded of the review committee, and the review committee did advance this with their blessing. Now, yes, there is a minority report. Every committee has the option for a minority report. Even the courts have minority reports, and, even with minority reports, we don't overrule the courts. Their decision stands. I suggest to you that the review process served the very same kind of an analysis. Yes, there is always that reason, rationale, and right for that minority report. I would like to refresh your memory. On the first