

column, Abigail Van Buren writes about some poor person who watched a welder with the arc welding torch for 45 minutes, and as a result suffered three to four days with the swollen eyes, total blindness and the like. Could that welder go down to a drug store and find a drug to heal that process? No. This bill, this bill would allow optometrists to prescribe drugs that are inherently dangerous. Cortical steroids are the classic inherently dangerous drug. I believe that the training of physicians which is a long term training process is the kind of training that I can allow with respect to the application of drugs to eyes for therapeutic purposes. As of this date, optometrists do not have that kind of training. They do not have that kind of training. In the area of eye care as in the area of all other health care, it is important for us to go slow. It is important for us to adopt the minority report because we can't afford to subject our people to the risk. We can't let people lose their eyesight through illy trained applications of drugs. Go slow, take these dangerous drugs out of this licensing bill. That is what our amendment does.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Okay, Senator Johnson has closed. We are now voting on the Hoagland-Johnson amendment to LB 131. All those in favor vote aye, those opposed vote no. Have you all voted? Have you all voted? Thirty seconds and I am going to call the vote. Record the vote, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 13 ayes, 25 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the amendment.

SENATOR CARSTEN: The amendment has failed to be adopted.

CLERK: I have nothing further on the bill, Mr. President.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Okay, then we are back on the bill as amended. Senator Sieck is next to speak. Do you want to speak on the bill now, Senator Sieck?

SENATOR SIECK: Yes, I will speak a little bit on the bill. I was going to speak on that motion but I really didn't need to I guess. I do feel that the optometrists do have the proper education and I am not a bit afraid to go to their office for any treatment of the eye. And if they cannot cure it and help it, they will tell me so and tell me where to go, whether it would be to the medical doctor or to the