

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR MOORE: ...and we waste a lot of time. As I said, the Bernard-Stevens amendment goes much further than he wants it to go. Even he admits that. If you really want to deal with the issue, you know, I would urge him to withdraw the amendment, see what happens to my amendment. If it does get adopted, we're going to have to correct it and I'm sure he's going to vote no for it either...I think he's going to vote no for it and I understand that. But I think we can move forward on this issue. We debated it extensively last year. We're going to debate it probably quite a while this morning. That's fine. It is an important issue. I understand what you're doing. The Bernard-Stevens amendment, actually it's the issue that goes much further without reason. I urge the body to oppose it.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Moore. Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Madam President. Senator Moore, you made...you made valid comments, as you traditionally do, and you defend your viewpoint well. And, Senator Byars, I think your points were right on target. One of the reasons I offered this particular amendment is to kind of show the body that the Moore amendment is drafted in such a way that they're wanting to make sure that this so-called compromise that Senator Moore talks about, which, in my judgment, is a compromise between he and the people he's working with, that's the only group that's compromised on this...on this particular issue. They made it so difficult to make...for this body to actually have a policy decision on which board we wanted. They're trying to draft...they've done it, they've done it very successfully, drafted it in such a way that it's very difficult to pull that one section out that says we want to vote on whether it's going to be the Board of Medicine or the Board of Optometry. And what I did is I drafted an amendment that was probably one of the best ways of doing it in this...the way this bill is written. But it does make it confusing. It does make it difficult and it would put the body in a position of having to make other changes and that's the point I'm trying to get across. This amendment is dangerous. It's not as simple as Senator Moore wants to make it. It's not a compromise with anyone except those that Senator Moore is working with to get the bill. The compromise in the beginning was the original bill, not this amendment, the Moore