

procedures will be under the direction of a medical doctor anyway so I feel like that I could support the ..I would oppose the Kristensen amendment at this time. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Vrtiska. Senator Moore.

SENATOR MOORE: Mr. Speaker and members, I hate turf battles. I wish they would go away. I have friends on both sides of the issue. We can all say that and the reason we say that is the exact reason our predecessors in the body created the 407 process, as Senator Wesely talked about. I mean, are we on this body qualified to make decisions like this? Probably not. I don't think we are. But because of that, that's why we created the system of trying to deal with that. And there's three parts to that system, there's the Technical Review process, there's the Board of Health and there's, in this case, the former Director of Health, an M.D., Dr. Wright, who put the skids on it. And you will notice in the book the Nebraska Medical Association was opposed to the bill. And the M.D., who by statute the Director of Health is an M.D., said, no, we don't want to do that, though the entire board voted for it, the Technical Review process voted for it, and things like that. Set the table a little bit on this bill. As Senator Wesely already mentioned, we went through the 407 process, the original bill I introduced last year, two years ago actually, well, three years ago, dealing with glaucoma, and giving optometrists greater authority in the treatment of glaucoma. You know, for three years this was the glaucoma bill and the glaucoma war, even though prescription drugs was always in that bill, you go back to the debate on this floor two years ago and you will not find a word about the evils of prescriptive drugs and oral meds. That was never talked about two years ago. Glaucoma was the battle line. Senator Landis, we spent hours down at Senator Landis's office talking about the treatment of glaucoma and we battled over glaucoma for years and, for that reason, I introduced two bills this year, separated or not, if glaucoma is the battleground, if glaucoma is the problem, let's find a part that we can agree on and move it along and we'll deal with glaucoma at some other point in time. In no way, shape and form am I going to try and amend that glaucoma bill onto this bill. I want that perfectly understood. So we have 429, the oral med bill, and a bill already killed by the Health Committee was the glaucoma bill which we just spent hours discussing the glaucoma issue. Well, once the glaucoma bill was out of the way, the opponents of anything in this area, the ophthalmologists, said