

she became a medical doctor to specialize in the treatment of the eye.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Well, but, we're...yes, I understand what you're saying but we were talking about consulting with doctors.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Okay. And I...thank you, because I think your point is true that some of them probably do make those consultations and the reason you do that is that they want to make sure, and why do you want to make sure is because you're going to go to somebody that's got that experience and that residency and that training to do those sorts of things for protection because you don't want to hurt somebody, and I think that's perfectly legitimate.

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: And that's the point that I bring to you. Now I guess I would be willing if we want to do oral medications under...and I haven't passed this by anybody, but I don't think I need to, is that I guess I have some comfort level if you're going to prescribe those oral medications and you want to do it under the consultation with an ophthalmologist, fine, or a medical doctor. But the point here is where are you going to draw the line? Just because I live in Minden, Nebraska or I live in McCook doesn't mean I should have any less safeguards about eye care. And the access issue is important but it...I will tell you, eye disease is important too and if you're willing to...if you're willing to deal in that serious area, you're willing to probably make those trips and do that travel. And most of the time, in fact, I think I've seen some of the maps here in terms of coverage by ophthalmologists that they cover that area and I'll bet, Senator Elmer, that you will probably have an ophthalmologist that does come into your area.

SPEAKER BAACK: Time.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I only rise and I'll probably only rise once just to put my position on the record and let people know why I'm going to be voting as I am. This is one of those issues, I suppose the longer you're around