

true. There's not...there's in the State of Nebraska, if you look at the 30-mile radius of optometrists in the state and ophthalmologists in the state, they're the same. In fact, when you look at the radius of a 30-mile area around ophthalmologists, you see what part of the state that is not covered, and you see Dundy County is not covered, a little bit...most of Grant, Hooke:, and Thomas County. Then you go to the optometrists, you see what parts of the state are not covered, wouldn't you know, Dundy, Grant, Hooker, and Thomas County, same areas. So when I ask myself the question on medicine, I try to get to some issues as to who is not receiving medical care and the answer is, there is proper medical care received by people in Nebraska throughout the state. That's not the issue. Is there issue of malpractice, is there an issue of bad medical care? That was not brought up today either. Is there an issue of education, both teams get a proper amount of education for their scope of practice. I will be interested when we get to this type of debate on other issues, for example, certified teachers in education. Should we have noncertified staff? Equally, maybe have some training in their area that could be teachers, should they be allowed to get into the classroom. In my way of thinking, those that support this type of concept on the optometrists would favor that as well. If I go and get a doctor's degree in mathematics, I'm going to have the privileges of that degree, and if Senator Jones or someone else gets a masters degree in mathematics, they will have the privileges of that degree. Senator Jones may be just as qualified in his masters to teach anupper-level doctorate class but he is not allowed to because he does not have the certificate, and we don't allow that. But we are in medicine. We are going to in medicine. You don't have to get the ticket, you don't have to go through the sweat and effort to get it, but we're going to allow it through 25 votes. That's how we are doing medicine in the State of Nebraska,...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...and it stinks. It is bad policy but it is going to become law and I understand that. I want to make a couple of other points. When you talk about medicine, medicine in eye care or any care is very, very important. The people in Nebraska will talk about health care, it's going to be the issue probably for a long period of time. Senator Jones talks about the mail he has received. I receive the same mail. Do you know who it is from, for the most part? Patients of