

SENATOR WESELY: Then others are uncertain in terms of how their funding source originates. What I am suggesting is, of those subsidized residencies through the state, what percent are staying back in Nebraska? How many stay in the primary care? What kind of return on the investment are we making? I can't answer those questions right now. So I think that this bill opens up the issue, opens up the concern. I am not ready to address it at this time, but I think the route that I'm going to suggest is advancement of the bill, and further discussions, and I'd be happy to work with Senator Dierks and Senator Vrtiska on this issue, and to look for further consideration of the measure later on Select File.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Before we move on to other speakers, I would like to welcome some guests of the Legislature, guests of Senator McKenzie. In the south balcony are 67 fifth graders from Central City Elementary with their sponsor. Would you please stand and be recognized by the Legislature today. Thank you for coming. Senator Horgan is the next speaker, followed by Senators Vrtiska, Dierks, Pedersen, and then Wesely. Senator Horgan.

SENATOR HORGAN: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I simply, as a cosponsor of 152, want to rise in support of the bill. I think we all recognize the importance of providing some rural health care throughout Nebraska, and the extreme shortage that this bill attempts to address by creating some opportunities for some additional scholarship aid and other aid to encourage people to go out into the rural areas. I think Senator Dierks has done a good job of explaining the bill, and the problem that it attempts to address, and I think it's a good piece of legislation, that it deals with a very serious problem that is not just...should be a concern of rural senators but should be a concern of all of us. And, therefore, I would encourage the adoption of the bill, and if there are questions Senator Wesely needs to have addressed, I think we can appropriately do that on Select File, if that's what he wants to do, but I would encourage the body to advance the bill. Thank you.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Horgan. Senator Vrtiska, on advancement of the bill.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the body. I guess I need to spend just a couple of minutes