

front with that so what I'm really doing here at this point, although I'm serious about the amendment, I want to hear some of your discussion to see if there are other rural senators, what the urban senators think, what kind of ideas come forth relative to this situation. I want to hear what you have to say and what you feel that we need to do to address this problem. Are we too early in the matter of how well-intentioned Senator Wesely is? Are we maybe just a little bit too soon here with this legislation? Do we need to give it a rest for a little while longer? I want to hear what you have to say and what discussion you put forth.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Byars. Mr. Clerk, motion on the desk. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Yeah, I would like to divide the question.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Would you indicate where?

SENATOR WESELY: There's part one and part two. Part one deals with CON, the other part deals with the director's oversight over the plan. So I think there's a clear division.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Wesely. I will rule that it is divisible and, Senator Byars, which portion would you like to take up first?

SENATOR BYARS: Why don't we take up Section 1 first. I think this seems to be that which needs more discussion that's relative to the CON, so let's take up that first portion, if that's okay with Senator Wesely.

PRESIDENT MOUL: We will take that portion up first. Senator Dierks, you're next, followed by Senators Witek and Wesely.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Madam President, and members of the body, I, too, wanted to commend Senator Wesely for his determination and diligence in bringing this legislation. I know that it's very close to him. I know he studied the issue for a number of years and I know it's an important issue with him. My purpose in signing off on the amendment was because of the effect that it has on some of the hospitals in my legislative district, and this particular part of the amendment, as it's being split now, is the one that I'm mostly concerned with. We, too, in rural Nebraska...my part of rural Nebraska,