

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Is there anyone else who would care to address the Kristensen amendment? Seeing none, Senator Kristensen, to close on your amendment.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature. I think since the chairman of the committee who has jurisdiction over this matter and certainly the primary sponsor of the bill have risen in support that this is an amendment that the body is comfortable with and certainly the intent of the legislation at this point is to have the optometrists held to the same standard of care of those doctors, medical doctors who render the same type of eye care and that they're going to have the same duty and standard of care if they're going to enter into this particular practice. So with that, I thank them for their cooperation and would urge the adoption of the amendment.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. You've heard the closing on the Kristensen amendment. The question is shall the amendment be adopted? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 33 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of Senator Kristensen's amendment.

SENATOR HALL: The Kristensen amendment is adopted.

CLERK: I have nothing further on the bill, Mr. President.

SENATOR HALL: The debate is on advancement of the bill to E & R for engrossing. Senator Kristensen, your light is next.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature. I do thank the body for the adoption of that amendment. However, I do rise to at least place an explanation of my vote that I will not be voting for LB 429. I have serious reservations about allowing people who do not have the training, experience, residency, et cetera, for prescribing medical drugs. I think it's extremely dangerous policy in this state. It's one that I would hope we would seek to limit in the future and with that, Mr. Chairman, I would explain my vote as being certainly in the negative and I hope others would do so. Thank you.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. Anyone else who would care to speak to the advancement of the bill? Senator