

only 19 percent leaving the state over a period of time. Less successful is the current family practice residency program in Creighton, at least the best information that I could get out of that program which indicates about 6 percent of the graduates end up in rural Nebraska, 38 percent in urban Nebraska, and 56 percent leave the state. Now I understand that that's the past and this proposal which will tie into particularly Creighton but clearly Clarkson Hospital may change that, may change that dynamic from one where a lot of the graduates of the program end up leaving Nebraska to one where hopefully most of them stay in the state. But I'm just expressing a concern about past track record when we talk about where we're trying to go and that is to get rural physicians, family physicians, there hasn't been a lot of success with that currently in the Creighton medical program. So I think you could make the argument that that's why this program is needed and I can understand and I've heard that and so my hope is that we have some targets and some understanding that the money that we put into this which could, as Senator Dierks said on General File, cost in the range of \$500,000 to \$700,000 a year eventually, depending on how things play out. Anyway, so the concern in addition to that about this particular proposal was that state dollars might go to private hospitals, private education institutions and would that be a change in policy and the answer to that is, no, that's currently the situation.

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR WESELY: Another question and concern that I had was about the incentives in here and were they adequate or better than the incentives to go in rural family practice than the current residency programs. The answer to that is that these are better than those other proposals. So those concerns were answered positively, and what I came down to was a concern that we want to make sure that this works, that there ought to be an ongoing study of it. And again, the amendment that I had filed asked for the Office of Rural Health to do that study. I have talked to Senator Dierks and I've talked to Senator Vrtiska and they've indicated to me that we'll all work together in trying to follow up and study the impact of this bill, but also study the current programs that are out there and the current expenditures to see if they're accomplishing our goals. Also in Senator Schellpeper's bill, LB 505, there's a medical center study required looking at, again, the desire to have more family practice graduates and more of those graduates staying in