

have more family practice people; and number three, making sure they end up in our rural areas and high need areas where we're just having a serious problem. And we're swimming upstream. The flow is going somewhere else so we've got to make an extra effort here. What I was wondering is I don't know, Senator Vrtiska or Senator Dierks, either one of you, one concern that came to me is in terms of maintenance of effort by Clarkson Hospital and Creighton University which a lot of the focus on this program will go. Is it your understanding that there will be no cutback in their current commitments and funding of their current residency programs in this area? We aren't going to end up in a situation where state funding will substitute for current private funding. We'll just end up exactly in the same place, only state monies will be going there instead of private. Is that...can you...(inaudible)

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Vrtiska.

SENATOR VRTISKA: My understanding and that their program will continue as it is and they don't intend to be subsidized only to the extent of adding more doctors, training more doctors in the primary care field and, of course, you know, Senator Wesely, if I had any indication at all that we were going to end up training more specialists and sending them to some other states I wouldn't even stand here and spend any time, waste any of your or my time or anybody else's time.

SENATOR WESELY: So your understanding is this is additional family practice residencies to what they're already doing.

SENATOR VRTISKA: That's my understanding, yes.

SENATOR WESELY: Okay. And also the language in the bill is one of authorization of the program. There's not any entitlement to this. I mean, it authorizes the program so we can review and watch how it progresses and continue or not continue in the future as we desire.

SENATOR VRTISKA: And Senator Dierks and myself and our staff indicated to you that we intend to see that we are going...intend to get our money worth. If this program doesn't do what it is supposed to do, I would be the first one to say let's pull it.

SENATOR WESELY: That's all I need to.. I have confidence in