

February 6, 1986 LB 572
 LR 336

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the resolution.

PRESIDENT: The resolution is adopted. We proceed to General File, priority bills, number 572.

CLERK: Mr. President, 572 was a bill that was introduced by Senator Marsh, Lundy, Carsten, Hannibal, Vickers, Goll, Warner and Rupp. (Read title.) The bill was read on January 22nd of last year. It was referred to the Public Health Committee for hearing. The bill was advanced to General File, Mr. President. There are Health and Human Services Committee amendments pending.

PRESIDENT: Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. Mr. President and members, LB 572, Senator Marsh's priority bill, it's a bill dealing with dental hygienists and defines their scope of practice. This is the first of the LB 407 review bills that will be coming before you this year. If you remember, last year there were 11 bills dealing with scope of practice or licensure issues involving health professionals. We took those bills, held them in committee and passed a bill, LB 407, which set up a process where technical committees were established of private citizens to review these changes in licensure and scope of practice. They then made recommendations in a report which went to the Director of Health, who then took and made his own recommendations. We then got those reports and recommendations in the Health and Human Services Committee and have acted on those. This is the first bill. It will be followed by about 9 more pieces of legislation which, hopefully, one after another have for the most part been worked out. There are some exceptions. This is the first one and it is one that I think is generally agreed to and supported by both dental hygienists and dentists and I am very glad that we are able to talk about LB 572. A quick background. This issue has been before the Legislature as long as I have been here. This is my eighth year and I think, I don't know how many years before that it may have come up. But the question of how far the hygienists can go in terms of their scope of practice has been a point of controversy and conflict between dentists and dental hygienists for a long time and to pass this bill and resolve that is going to be very beneficial to the dental industry in this state. Now, the