

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

February 23, 1999 LB 379

all. (See AM7041 on page 518 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I move we adopt the E & R amendments to LB 379.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: The question before the body is the adoption of the E & R amendments. All those in favor say aye. Those opposed say nay. They are adopted.

CLERK: Senator Dierks would amend with AM0264, Mr. President. (See amendment on page 594 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Dierks, you're recognized to open on your amendment.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Briefly, to remind you, LB 379 addresses the role of physicians' assistants with regard to controlled substance prescriptions. LB 379 prevents the disruption of essential health care services currently provided by PAs. The bill is needed because of a change of interpretation at the federal level. LB 379 was advanced for review on February 8. While on E & R, the Revisor's Office advised me that there were a couple of new sections which should be amended to harmonize the statutes. These were accidentally overlooked in drafting the original bill. Normally, it would be contained in E & R amendment...in an E & R amendment, but since these sections were not in the original bill, however, they have been printed. AM0264 makes three changes in the Uniform Controlled Substances Act. In each change, physician assistants are added to the scope of the section. The first adds physician assistant to Section 28-412. This section concerns the prescribing and administering of prescribed narcotic drugs to addicts. Physicians, dentists, and veterinarians are currently forbidden from administering these narcotics to addicts. This amendment merely adds physician assistants to that list. The second change is to Section 28-415. This concerns the labeling requirements of any prescription. AM0264 adds physician assistants to the current list of physicians, dentists, podiatrists, or veterinarian. And the final change adds prescriptions ordered by a physician assistant to the definition