

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

April 1, 1999

LB 573

I'd urge your approval of the committee amendment and advancing the bill on to Select File. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Debate on the committee amendments?
Senator Hilgert.

SENATOR HILGERT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members. Would
Senator Landis yield to a question?

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Landis?

SENATOR LANDIS: Yes.

SENATOR HILGERT: Why it is essential that we remove the liability from the veterinarian? On page 2 of...and if we're referring to Committee Amendment 540, line 25, page 2, any "such veterinarian is not liable for any acts or omissions on the part of the animal welfare organization," that does have some concern to me because I think most animal welfare organizations have probably shallower pockets, if you will, than a veterinarian. A veterinarian already has insurance and so forth to cover any mishaps that may occur with these chemicals. Why it is essential to your bill...

SENATOR LANDIS: Yeah.

SENATOR HILGERT: ...that we have...that we exempt them from liability?

SENATOR LANDIS: Understand that in Amendment 0540 it clearly states that the permit to hold and use the drugs belongs to the veterinarian and removes any doubt that he's liable for the provision of the drugs.

SENATOR HILGERT: Right.

SENATOR LANDIS: Now, there are federal liabilities and state liabilities. The veterinarians were of a mind, look, if I'm not going to actually be the one to administer the drug, I don't want to necessarily have the same level of liability that I would if I did administer the drug. The agencies who want to do this said that we will assume that responsibility. If I have to