

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

April 9, 1999

LB 179, 492

fixed incomes status qualify. I guess, that's the extent of the amendment. It just stops the discrimination caused by putting mental and physical in separate categories, and I ask for the advancement of AM1064. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Debate on the Robak amendment? Senator Wickersham.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Mr. Speaker, I rise to ask the Chair to determine whether or not the amendment offered by Senator Robak is not substantially the same as LB 492, a bill that was introduced by Senator Bohlke, and then subsequently indefinitely postponed by the Revenue Committee. If the Chair determines that the amendment is substantially the same as the bill, it would require 30 votes for the adoption of the amendment, pursuant to Rule 6, subsection 3, sub (h). If you wish me to comment on why I believe they're similar, Mr. Speaker, I would do that. I'm not....

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Wickersham, if you'd just expand a little bit, I've got the Rule Book, and, Senator Robak, I'll give you a chance to respond before I make a ruling.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Mr. Speaker, if you examine the text of LB 492, you will see that the entirety of the text of LB 492 is identical to the amendment that Senator Robak is offering, with the exception of the deletion, in the Robak amendment, of the words "physical or" in front of "mental impairment", on line 19 of page 2 of that amendment. So all Senator Robak's bill (sic) does is leave out the word "physical"...what would be a physical impairment to qualify, for somebody who limits one or more major life activities, such as walking, talking, hearing, seeing, breathing, learning, performing manual tasks, caring for ones self, or working. So in that operative phrase that defines who would be eligible, all that the Robak amendment does is leave out the word "physical", instead of pairing it with the word "physical or mental impairment". It's my belief that the amendment then is substantially the same as LB 492, and that we should require 30 votes for its adoption, pursuant to the rule I've cited.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Robak, would you like an