

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

February 15, 2001 LB 254, 574A

may. Voting on advancement of LB 574A. Have you all voted who care to? Record, please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 28 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of LB 574A.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The bill does advance. Mr. Clerk, next agenda item.

CLERK: LB 254, Mr. President, by Senator Hudkins. (Read title.) Bill was introduced on January 5 of this year, referred to the Transportation Committee, bill was advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments pending. (AM0216, Legislative Journal page 485.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Hudkins, to open on advancement of LB 254.

SENATOR HUDKINS: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. LB 254 is a bill that's designed to simplify the current laws that govern how one who is responsible for causing property damage to an unattended motor vehicle in an accident must notify the owner of the property that he damaged and also report the incident to the appropriate authorities. Right now, someone responsible for such damage, if you, for whatever reason, slide through a parking lot or whatever and you hit a car, you must right now either attempt to locate the owner of the unattended vehicle or leave a note on the car in a very conspicuous place, and in that note you must give specific information: name, address, insurer, whatever. But you have to...the owner of the car then has to be able to locate you and you can work out all of the insurance details, and you must also report the accident to law enforcement within 12 hours. Well, instead, this bill removes the language beginning on page 2, line 11, about locating the owner of the vehicle. Sometimes it's just not possible or sometimes it isn't even feasible to find the owner of that car. And it also requires that you report the damage to the authorities without unnecessary delay, but you still have to leave the note with the required information on it. And, next, the bill simplifies and changes the penalty if you don't do this. At present, if you fail to provide the information either