

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

March 15, 2001 LB 12, 154

Senator Chambers' amendment.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: The amendment is adopted. Further debate on the Pedersen amendment, as amended? Senator Pedersen, you're recognized to close. Senator Pedersen waives closing. The question is the adoption of AM1020 to LB 154. Those in favor vote aye; those opposed vote nay. Voting on AM1020 to LB 154. Please record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of Senator Pedersen's amendment.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: The amendment is adopted.

CLERK: Mr. President, the next amendment, Senator Pedersen, I had AM0730, but I have note, Senator, you'd like to offer AM1021. (Legislative Journal page 1088.)

SENATOR Dw. PEDERSEN: (Microphone malfunction) That's correct, Mr. Clerk.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Without objection, it is ordered. Senator Pedersen, you are recognized to open on AM1021.

SENATOR Dw. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor and members of the Legislature. AM1021 to LB 154 is actually LB 12, which is a bill I offered in committee this year and has been passed out of committee. LB 12 is a bill that was introduced that simply requires that all persons dispensing medications in a state-operated correctional facility shall be required to meet, at a minimum, the standards set forth in statute for persons who are medication aides in assisted-living facilities. I believe this is necessary because inmates do not meet the definition of a person who is able to take medications independently as described in statute. Inmates are not free to take responsibility for their own healthcare. Medications are sometimes withheld from them against their will, and sometimes against the orders of their doctors in the community. Sometimes medications may be withheld for disciplinary purposes. For example, a guard may withhold medication if an inmate is five minutes late for medication call. Inmates do not have immediate