

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

May 21, 2001

LB 432A, 433

having been complied with, the question is, shall LB 430A (sic--LB 432A) pass? All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, please, Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal page 2164.) Vote is 45 ayes, 0 nays, 1 present and not voting. 3 excused and not voting, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: LB 430A (sic--LB 432A) passes. Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, with respect to LB 433, Senator Wickersham would move to return the bill to strike the enacting clause. (FA279, Legislative Journal page 2164.)

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN PRESIDING

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Wickersham, you're recognized to open on your motion to return.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Mr. Speaker, I will withdraw the motion after speaking for a little while to explain my vote and then I'm going to yield the balance of the time that I have to Senator Landis. This is a bill that has received significant amount of debate, but it was earlier in the session. It concerns the allowance of tax credits to businesses if they act to provide employee child-care programs for their employees. As you know or if you recall from the prior discussion, I have concerns about these kinds of programs financing them through tax credits and a variety of other issues. I would call your attention to the fact that this proposal is not a free proposal. It will cost approximately \$1.7 million in the first year and approximately \$2 million each year thereafter during its life, although it will sunset. By my estimation, this is scarcely an area in which we need to provide additional funding. For the year 2000, for the Fiscal Year 2000, we will spend approximately \$19 million worth of General Fund dollars and approximately \$28.75 million of federal dollars, for a total of \$47.7 million for direct payments to persons who can participate in child-care programs run by the Department of Health and Human Services. Those expenditures are programmed to increase for the Fiscal Year 2000 to approximately \$49,650,000; by the Fiscal Year 2002