

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

January 28, 2002 LB 235, 814

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: The amendment is adopted.

CLERK: I have nothing further on the bill, Mr. President.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: We're debating advancement of the bill. Senator Beutler, you're recognized to close on advancement. He waives the closing. The question before the body is the advancement of LB 814. All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Record.

CLERK: 31 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of LB 814.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: LB 814 advances. LB 235.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 235 was a bill by Senator Byars. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 5 of last year, at that time referred to the Health and Human Services Committee. The bill was advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments, Mr. President. (AM0494, Legislative Journal page 674, First Session, 2001.)

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Byars, you are recognized to open.

SENATOR BYARS: Thank you, Mr. President and colleagues. LB 235 is a bill which expands the newborn screening panel to include what we call MCAD. MCAD stands for medium-chain acyl co-a dehydrogenase deficiency. That's pretty good for a Monday morning, don't you think? The bill was advanced from the Health and Human Services Committee with a unanimous vote. Let me talk a little bit about what it does. It is a bill that has no negative fiscal, it has a positive fiscal, as a matter of fact, because it does change the method by which the program is funded, which is a very positive thing. The Department of Health and Human Services, under existing statute, can currently add additional screenings to the newborn screening panel through the rules and regulations process but, without the additional changes in LB 235, adding additional screening would increase costs which we have worked very hard not to do. The new addition would increase screenings that would capture infants that are at this point not subjected to the screenings or not