

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

April 16, 2002      LB 647, 1250

Enrollment and Review amendments pending. (AM7220, Legislative Journal page 1487.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Erdman, for a motion.

SENATOR ERDMAN: Thank you, Mr. President. I move the adoption of the E & R amendments to LB 647.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The motion is to adopt the E & R amendments to LB 687. All in favor say aye. Opposed nay. They are adopted.

CLERK: Senator Beutler would move to amend. (AM3725, Legislative Journal pages 1679-1680.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Beutler, you're recognized to open on AM3725 to LB 647.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature, this is a consent bill, LB 1250, that I introduced before the Education Committee, very early on this session, that has found no home. And Senator Stuhr has graciously consented to allow me to amend it into this bill, providing, of course, that you all consent to it. It is a bill that I picked up on behalf of the visually impaired. It came out of Education with no dissenting votes. The version that is being presented to you today is the committee amendment version of the bill, which struck and clarified a couple of items in the bill. What the bill does, it's very simple but it could be tremendously helpful to the school districts, and to the visually impaired, it requires, as now, have done a whole number of states in the country, that all contracts for the purchase of textbooks include provisions that, essentially, would require the publisher to provide a computer file or other electronic version so that the process of physically changing over and making a braille textbook is tremendously expedited. So that you don't have to go through and hand-copy and reestablish a format, but rather a whole step is replaced. There was no opposition to this from any of the textbook manufacturers. The school districts love it. The visually impaired need it. There are a couple of other provisions in the bill, but they have to do with...only with