

LB 1146.

SPEAKER BARRETT: LB 1146 advances. Items for the record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Hefner has amendments to LB 571 to be printed. Enrollment and Review reports LB 923 and LB 42 to Select File with E & R amendments attached. (See pages 860-62 of the Legislative Journal.)

Mr. President, Senator Hartnett would like to announce there will be a meeting of Urban Affairs at three o'clock this afternoon in Room 1019; Urban Affairs Exec Session, three o'clock in Room 1019 this afternoon. That's all that I have, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Proceeding then to General File, LB 1080.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 1080 was a bill introduced by Senator Schellpeper. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 10 of this year, at that time referred to Health and Human Services Committee for public hearing. The bill was advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments pending by the Health and Human Services Committee.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Chair recognizes Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature. The bill before you, LB 1080, is a bill introduced by Senator Schellpeper, a very important piece of legislation that deals with the problems brought about by the passage, several years ago, of OBRA legislation by the Congress. This legislation makes a number of changes in standards and requirements for nursing homes across the country. And in our own state we are obviously preparing to implement that legislation as of October 1 of this year. We have a difficulty in a number of areas, and this legislation will allow us to maximize our flexibility in meeting those new standards. The amendments by the committee, number one, exempt ICFMR's from new training requirements that are provided under the bill. Those training requirements are the following--care staff members that now require 90 hours of training would have to have 115 hours; nursing assistants that now have 20 hours of training would have to have 75 hours. These training requirements would be exempted