

March 2, 1990

LB 1136, 1222

PRESIDENT: Thank you. The question is the advancement of the bill. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays on the motion to advance the bill, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The bill is advanced. LB 1222.

ASSISTANT CLERK: LB 1222 was introduced by Senator Hartnett and a number of other members. (Read title.) The bill was read for the first time on January 18th, was referred to the Health and Human Services Committee. That committee reports the bill back to General File with committee amendments, Mr. President. (Standing Committee amendments appear on page 971 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT: Senator Wesely, please.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. LB 1222 deals with the Foster Care Review Board and their ability to have standing in court. The committee did hear the bill and found some need for some amendments. First off, Section 2 and Section 3 are stricken from the bill. It was felt that those particular sections caused some problems and were not necessary, and so it was felt that they needed to be stricken from the bill. We did....Those deal with access to domestic violence records, and there were some restrictions about that access that would have been violated by those sections of law. We also, on child abuse and neglect reports, and the access provided to the Foster Care Review Board would not include the names of the persons that made the reports. This is to protect those individuals that might turn in individuals for child abuse or neglect. And so we wanted the Foster Care Review Board to have access to those reports, but we didn't want them to necessarily know who it was that turned in those individuals, so we wanted to maintain that confidentiality. We also required guardian ad litem to file reports at disposition hearings, which would be every six months. Currently they aren't required to have any written report. And it was felt that it would be advantageous to, on that regular basis, have those reports to review. That particular element, I talked to Senator Hartnett with, and there are some concerns with. I'd prefer at this time to adopt that