

April 9, 1990

LB 603, 1004A, 1222

Journal.) 34 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the override of 1004A.

SPEAKER BARRETT: LB 1004A becomes law notwithstanding the Governor's veto. Mr. Clerk, are we at LB 1222.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Hartnett would move that LB 1222 become law notwithstanding the objection of the Governor.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Hartnett, please.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I introduced this bill, had this bill twice, last year as LB 603, this year as 1222. It was heard by two different committees, the Health Committee and the Judiciary Committee. The reason given for the Governor for vetoing the...the veto message is additional confrontation between (sic) the legal disputes between state agencies, but the A bill, as it is put in, only has little, around \$35,000 for this purpose. What it does, it allows the Foster Care Review Board to do the job it has been mandated to do, protect the interest of the foster children and see that they don't fall through the cracks in the system. It provides the Foster Care Review Board with access to child abuse records, requires written reports from guardianship...guardians ad litem at dispositional hearings, permits reports and recommendations of the board to be admitted into the evidence by...they can be considered by the judge, or a state board to have one member to be an attorney with legal expertise in child welfare, provide access to teachers and police officers so that the board can get better information on foster case. Requires review hearings to be conducted on the record, provides for additional training for foster parents. The bill does not attempt to broadly address the problem without a system deals with foster children. Children have become the responsibility of the state because of family problems. Finally, we need to keep the effectiveness of the child review board in serving (sic) money every time the child is removed from the system. Studies have shown that the board has saved the state over one-half million dollars every year, helps allow the Foster Review Board to expand their authority for the welfare of group children who are among the overlooked children in our system. With that, I would like to ask the body to overrule the veto.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Discussion on that motion. Senator Smith, followed by Senator Moore.