

February 22, 1996 LB 256A, 256, 1248

CLERK: I have a quorum present, Mr. President.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Quorum is present. Are there any corrections to the Journal?

CLERK: I have no corrections, Mr. President.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Mr. Clerk, are there any messages, reports, and announcements?

CLERK: Mr. President, just one item. Senator Vrtiska has amendments to LB 1248 to be printed. (See pages 868-72 of the Legislative Journal.) That's the only item that I have.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Mr. Clerk, Select File, LE 256A.

CLERK: LB 256A, Mr. President, no E & R amendments. Senator Hudkins would move to amend the bill. The amendment is on page 866 of the Journal.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Hudkins.

SENATOR HUDKINS: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, good morning. The amendment is AM3233. And what it does it changes the amount shown on the A bill. We have received a new fiscal note, which unfortunately greatly increased the amount. We are in negotiations with Department of Public Institutions to rediscuss that amount. And for those who forget what the bill is, when an accused is going to trial and the judge or the county attorney or someone says that the accused perhaps is not competent to stand trial, the person is then taken for an evaluation. LB 256 then deals with after, if, in fact, the accused is found incompetent to stand trial, who pays the maintenance cost for that individual after the point of incompetency is determined. LB 256A is the appropriations bill for that. We are working on a new amendment to reduce those costs that show up on the fiscal note. And what I'm asking for you to do today is to advance 256A so that it may keep up with 256. When we have the amendment worked out and the reductions in costs or whatever compromise that we can reach, then we will bring back both LB 256 and 256A to make those changes. So at this point then, I am asking you just simply to advance 256A so that it may keep up with its main bill. Thank you.