

March 6, 1996

LB 961, 1076, 1153, 1155

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you. Senator Wickersham, there's no further lights on, do you have a closing? The closing's waived. The question is, shall LB 1076 be advanced to E & R Initial? All in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of LB 1076.

SPEAKER WITHEM: (LB) 1076 is advanced. Mr. Clerk, next bill, LB 1155.

CLERK: Mr. President, 1155 was a bill originally introduced by the Health and Human Services Committee and signed by its members. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 9 of this year, referred to the Health Committee. The bill was advanced to General File. There are committee amendments pending, Mr. President. (Standing Committee amendment, AM2921, is referred to on page 694 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Wesely, on the committee amendment.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, the committee amendment incorporates two other bills that were heard and advanced unanimously by the committee, LB 1153 and LB 961. The first bill, LB 1153, deals with the Department of Social Services and is their clean-up bill. It deals with the following elements. First off, the Department of Social Services is given the same authority county attorneys now have and private attorneys have, acting on behalf of individuals, to apply for wage withholding for child support. The Department of Social Services would have that authority related to recipients of ADC. The Center for Children and Youth, which is actually located in my district but no longer exists, it's been changed, it no longer has that title and that function, so that...references to that center are repealed. We also deal with the assignment and subrogation statutes related to benefits under Medicaid. And currently Medicaid pays for different needs and then seeks funding from private sources, like private insurance or whatever. And that...they're sort of a payer of last resort, in other words. That applies generally to Medicaid, but it doesn't apply to the managed care, which is the new system that we've evolved into. So the same subrogation