

March 28, 1996

LB 1188

reviewed by the Certificate of Need as well, but also it is a trade issue. It is a question of market share. It is a question of restraint of trade and that issue has not typically been dealt with at the state level, although there is some authority to do that. It has more or less been a Federal Trade Commission authority to examine those sort of issues and that is in place, so I anticipate a review occurring on that point at the appropriate time. I guess the bottom line is although a number of things are in place now, the Attorney General power, the Certificate of Need process to review these types of acquisitions and mergers, they have not adequately addressed those. They are not adequate to the task of these major changes and with these changes under this bill, there will greater strength and clarity to the process and I think all will benefit from it. The uncertainty of it will be clarified and I think we will benefit as a state from it. So, I rise in support of the amendment and again thank Senator Matzke for his good work on the bill and all the participation of others involved. Thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Before our next speaker, Senator Cudaback has as his guests today, under the north balcony Nick Toberer from Cozad. Mr. Toberer, would you like to stand and be welcomed by the Legislature. Thank you for being here. Senator Hilgert.

SENATOR HILGERT: Madam President and members, I just wanted to rise up. I had a couple of amendments on this bill, Senator Matzke did incorporate them into Amendment 4213, which is now 1188. I just wanted to thank Senator Matzke for his statesmanship, the cooperation of everyone involved and urge the advancement of the bill. Thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Hilgert. There are no further lights. Senator Matzke, you are recognized to close on your bill. He waives closing. The question is the advancement to E & R Initial of LB 1188. All in favor vote aye, opposed vote no.

SPEAKER WITHEM PRESIDING

SPEAKER WITHEM: Record.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 28 ayes, 0 nays on the motion to advance the