

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

April 1, 1999

LB 781

straight out requires you to stop and render help. I will do a little research on that, Senator Wehrbein, but I didn't think so.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Okay. I guess I've been under the impression that they had to, to the extent you're able, and I...I mean I'm looking at this. I don't know what a test would cost. I'm in sympathy with your bill, don't misunderstand, but I...it does raise an issue if...if you had the ability to and you...but you think of the dollars involved, the tests, because I assume that these tests are not cheap, as well as the risk you're running in doing that, and still you're able to do that. It looks like to me there could be times and conditions when it's a close call as what the right thing to do is. I mean it's already there, in my mind. Adding a probable test for this and the expense of that, I just raise the issue. I really am not going to oppose the bill, but I've always considered this a sensitive issue anyway and this probably will add to that sensitivity because, especially if you know you're at risk and then you're going to pay the test, and I'm assuming those kinds of tests are not just a nominal amount, and I just raise in the issue as we're discussing it this morning. Maybe there's more can be added to that by Select, but it just struck me as we were discussing it. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Further debate on the Bromm amendment? Senator Bromm, you're recognized to close on the amendment.

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you. Senator Wehrbein, just to make it perfectly clear, no test is required unless the person who feels they've been exposed requests such a test. And in the instance that...I think where this usually comes up is a person stops and helps without giving it a second thought about tests or that kind of thing. I mean I'm sure in the day and age we're in people may occasionally think about risks themselves, but I think many times it's a reaction. You just stop and you do whatever is...whatever you think you can do. And when you do that I think it is, especially in the situation that I became aware of this year, it's especially tragic then to the person that provides the help if they...if they don't know whether or not they have perhaps been exposed to something, like AIDs, that, you know, by rendering help. They at least need to know whether