

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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LB 240, 538

because of his or her absence. And this definition is necessary to continue to ensure the plans establish a clear severance of employment. Arguably, the bill is technical, but we specifically wanted to address these issues separate from the committee's technical bill, and when LB 538 was heard last February it did not bring any opposition in the committee hearing, and the committee did advance this bill unanimously with no amendments. So, at this time, I invite any questions and ask for your support in the advancement of LB 538. Thank you.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Senator Stuhr. There are no lights on. Did you wish to say anything in closing? Closing is waived. The question before the body is the advancement to E & R Initial of LB 538. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of LB 538.

SENATOR COORDSEN: LB 538 is advanced. We now move to General File Speaker priority bills. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 240 was a bill introduced by Senator Bromm originally and Senator Engel. (Read title.) Bill was introduced on January 11 of this year, at that time referred to the Health Committee. Bill was advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments pending, Mr. President. (AM0487, Legislative Journal page 942.)

SENATOR COORDSEN: Senator Engel, to open on LB 240.

SENATOR ENGEL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature. I rise in support of LB 240. It was introduced by the Program Evaluation Committee and as the result of the program evaluation and report of the Foster Care Review Board's case reviews of children in foster care in 1998. LB 240 was introduced to implement Program Evaluation Committee recommendations that require legislation. The Program Evaluation Committee proposed the amendment to LB 240 that would implement the three recommendations for statutory changes from the evaluation. The Health and Human Services Committee advanced LB 240, 7 to 0, with the recommended amendment. The