

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

May 20, 1999

LB 779

rebutting what I'm saying. But I've known Scot Ford for many, many years. He served in our police department for many years before he became chief. He's done an exemplary job as chief of police and I know he'll serve well on this committee. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Engel. Senator Pedersen, would you like to close? Senator Pedersen waives closing. The question before us is the adoption of the confirmation report of the Judiciary Committee found on Journal page 2221. Those in favor vote aye, those opposed nay. Please record.

CLERK: 31 ayes, 1 nay, on the confirmation report, Mr. President. (Legislative Journal page 2277.)

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Confirmation report is adopted. (Visitors introduced.) Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, the first bill this morning is LB 779 by Senator Engel and others. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 20, referred to the Education Committee, advanced to General File. I have no committee amendments, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Engel to open on LB 779.

SENATOR ENGEL: Mr. Lieutenant Governor, members of the body, I rise today in support of LB 779. Just a little bit of history. LB 779 was advanced by the Education Committee on a 7-0 vote and was introduced to update and revise the statutes pertaining to the Board of Educational Lands and Funds. The goal of LB 779 is to bring the statutes in line with current Board practice. The Board of Educational Lands and Funds is in agreement with this legislation. In 1996 and 1997, the Legislative Program Evaluation unit conducted an evaluation of the Board of Educational Lands and Funds and specifically the Board's exercise of its fiduciary duty in managing school lands and its compliance with statutory requirements were analyzed. Based on the unit's evaluation, the Program Evaluation Committee released a final evaluation report in February, 1997. The 1997 report