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February 19, 2003 LB 54

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Chairman Jensen. You've heard the opening on the committee amendments to LB 54 by Senator Jensen. Open for discussion. Senator Erdman.

SENATOR ERDMAN: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. Members of the Legislature, I just rise again in support of AM0181, as offered by the Health Committee, and again, will talk about the fact that this does set in statute what was requested by some of the opposition at the hearing, that we actually write in the law that it would be determined on a case-by-case basis, and that that information then would be sent back to the Health and Human Services Committee for the oversight of this waiver. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Erdman. Further discussion? There are no lights on. Senator Jensen. Senator Jensen waives the opportunity, as Chairman of the committee. The question before the body is the adoption of the committee amendments offered by the Health and Human Services Committee to LB 54. All in favor of the motion vote aye, opposed nay. We're voting on the adoption of the committee amendments to LB 54. Have you all voted who care to? Record please, Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 34 ayes, 0 nays on the adoption of committee amendments.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The motion to adopt committee amendments was successful. Discussion of the bill itself, LB 54, Senator Kruse.

SENATOR KRUSE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, members. I appreciate the work that's going into this, and the thoughts that are being given, and the attention, especially, given to foster care placement, which hopefully will command all of our attention. I still have anxiety about the bill, and will be voting against it. I am...I've been involved in this quite a bit. And the fact that somebody is a relative doesn't necessarily make them the best qualified to be a foster care parent. Many times it does. I guess the anxiety is, how will this be applied? And I know that that can't be answered directly. That's a matter of trust and experience. I'm grateful, Senator Jensen, that you've