

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

March 23, 2004 LB 941, 1005

to represent him. This actually was LB 941. It talks about occupational therapy. It was advanced by the committee. It incorporates mandatory licensure requirements for occupational therapists, brings OTs into conformity with other similar therapy providers. The bill does not expand the scope of practice, but clarifies and codifies that scope into statute. Occupational therapists are required to pass state boards, show their competency in this area, but there is no statutory licensure set out. LB 941 establishes that licensure. This amendment enumerates what functions an occupational therapists can perform, lists what an occupational therapist assistant is allowed to do under the supervision of an occupational therapist, establishes the guidelines and qualifications that an OT needs in order to use physical agent modalities. Occupational...excuse me, physical agent modalities are things like hot and cold packs, ultrasound, electrical stimulation, et cetera, to produce and assist in therapy. Basically, this amendment changes a voluntary license into a mandatory license, and delineates the scope of practice for occupational therapists and sets guidelines for occupational therapy assistants and aides. This issue has gone through the 407 process, has been worked on by the occupational therapists, Board of Health, and other groups for the last two years. Mr. President, I would just ask for the adoption of AM3134.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Jensen. You've heard the opening on AM3134 to LB 1005. Open for discussion on that motion. Senator Jensen, there are no senators wishing to speak. He waives closing. The question before the body is the adoption of AM3134, offered by Senator Jensen to LB 1005. All in favor of the motion vote aye, opposed nay. The question before the body is the Jensen amendment, AM3134, to LB 1005. Have you all voted on the amendment who care to? Record please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 31 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of Senator Jensen's amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The amendment has been adopted. (Visitors introduced.) Mr. Clerk, next amendment.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Jensen would move to amend,