

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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FLOOR DEBATE

February 22, 2006 LB 921

Schimek. (Read title.) The bill was read for the first time on January 5, referred to the Government Committee. The committee reports the bill to General File with no committee amendments.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Schimek, to open on LB 921.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Mr. President and members. This bill, LB 921, proposes to make changes regarding the oversight of two divisions at the Department of Administrative Services. With LB 921, the chief information officer will provide oversight for the Division of Communications, or DOC, and the Information Management Services, IMS division, within the Department of Administrative Services. Currently, the director of Administrative Services provides oversight for these two divisions. I have distributed two charts, which you may or may not want to look at. But what it does is...the back of the chart shows the structure as it is now, and the front of the chart shows the structure as proposed by LB 921. If you look at them, you'll notice that both the chief information officer and director of DAS report directly to the Governor. Under LB 921, the DOC, or the Division of Communications, and the IMS, or Information Management Services division, will report directly to the chief information officer, not the DAS director. Over the years, there has been increasing overlap in the functions and issues of the chief information officer and the Division of Communications and the Information Management Services division. It seems to make sense to put the two divisions under the chief information officer, to encourage continued cooperation and communication. And we were actually approached by DAS to bring this bill to you. With that, I would urge adoption of LB 921.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schimek. You've heard the opening on LB 921. Open for discussion on that motion. Anybody wishing to address the advancement? Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Schimek, just a couple of questions, if I might. The chief information officer is going to, it appears, basically take control of certain divisions of DAS. And I assume the chief information officer would be responsible for hiring and firing in those departments? Would that be