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January 30, 1997 LB 195, 222
LR 66

official, and a representative of the facility Infection Control Committee. So it has a rather wide range of members and it provides for protection for patients that are being administered to by medical personnel who have been infected with HIV virus or with hepatitis B. I would ask for your support of that bill to advance to General (sic) File. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Dierks. While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and do hereby sign LR 66. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Madam President, members. I rise in support of this bill. I also want to rise and commend Senator Dierks. Senator Dierks, as many of you may recall, chaired a task force studying the HIV/AIDS issue and worked miracles in trying to bring different parties together over the last few years. Both the last bill and this bill built on that legacy that he has accomplished with this Legislature to provide for reasonable and sensible policy in the state regarding AIDS and HIV. The concept here is that there are situations in other states where health care workers have, in fact, because of their exposure in situations where an exchange can occur that may infect individuals that are under their care, that we want to head off any problems here, if that should happen, and have the expertise of a review panel established so that in each case we can determine whether or not the public has any exposure and might be at risk. So I think that this is a reasonable effort to balance the need to protect the public and the need to recognize that not in all cases is there potential risk. So I rise in support of the bill and hope it will be advanced. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. Seeing no further lights, Senator Dierks, to close. Closing is waived. The question before you is the advancement of LB 195. All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Please record.

CLERK: 28 ayes, 0 nays, Madam President, on the advancement of LB 195.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: LB 195 advances. LB 222.