

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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April 22, 1997 LB 590

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: I appreciate the other people who participated. I'd urge the adoption of the committee amendments.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. You've heard the closing on the committee amendments. The question is the adoption of the committee amendments to LB 590. All in favor vote aye, opposed no. Record, please.

CLERK: 31 ayes, 0 nays, Madam President, on adoption of committee amendments.

SENATOR CROSBY: The committee amendments are adopted. Anything... We are on the bill itself. Anything further on the bill, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: I have nothing further on the bill, Madam President.

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Withem, would you like to close on the bill?

SPEAKER WITHEM: Yes, I would, very briefly. In many ways Senator Bromm and Senator Kristensen took away the thunder of what my closing was going to be. Number one, I'd like to thank the body for the time that they have given to this issue. It is an important issue. We have, I think, begun the process on this bill last year, with LB 1375. We continue to refine the issue. As you vote to advance LB 590, with the committee amendments adopted, you are not finishing the issue. There are still unfinished issues out here. And I would not disagree terribly with the characterization that Senator Bromm made of those unfinished issues. The issue that he has sought to address that I disagreed with his approach on is still a valid issue. That issue is, how do we define what is proper access to public records in this information age? And is it appropriate? And he's convinced me, with his arguments, that we do need to do something in the area of the individuals that goes to a state agency wanting a paper copy of a record, that individual still ought to be able to maintain that right to do that. And when there are changes in how public entities maintain records and provide them to the public, there needs to be...that needs to be