

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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FLOOR DEBATE

January 31, 2002 LB 824

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: We will next proceed to Select File, LB 824. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, the first item on LB 824, Senator Erdman, E & R amendments pending, Senator.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Erdman, you're recognized for a motion.

SENATOR ERDMAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move the adoption of the E & R amendments to LB 824. (AM7137, Legislative Journal page 313.)

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: The question before the body is the adoption of the E & R amendments. All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed...all those in favor say aye. Those opposed say nay. They are adopted.

CLERK: Mr. President, the first amendment to the bill based on filing for Select File. Senator Foley, I have AM2243 in front of me, Senator.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Foley, you're recognized to open on that amendment.

SENATOR FOLEY: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker and members. Two weeks ago on General File we debated LB 824 for almost eight hours, and the debate was, I think, very civil, very constructive, and at one time or another during that eight hours, virtually every senator took the opportunity to weigh in. And after adopting a very significant amendment to the green copy of that bill, we advanced the bill on a vote of 40 to 5. Three senators who are publicly supporting the bill, either as cosponsors or as coauthors of the consensus amendment that we adopted, were unavoidably absent at the time of that vote. So I think it's fair to say that at least as we left General File the bill enjoyed the support of about 43 out of 49 senators. And on an issue as delicate as this one surely is, I think that is an extraordinary demonstration of consensus. Several senators who found that they could not support the bill on General File will soon be offering amendments, and in at least one instance, the