

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

April 30, 2003 LB 412, 414

CLERK: 29 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of LB 412.

SENATOR CUDABACK: LB 412 does advance. Mr. Clerk, next agenda item.

CLERK: LB 414, introduced by the Speaker at the request of the Governor. (Read title.) Introduced on January 15, referred to Health and Human Services, advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments, Mr. President. (AM0287, Legislative Journal page 491.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Jensen, to open.

SENATOR JENSEN: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. This is a very simple bill. What it does, it takes the childcare reimbursement from the Health and Human Services Committee...or department, rather, and freezes it for this biennium. That's all the bill does. It just...and same thing, if times were better we would certainly probably move along with this, but since we're under a budget shortfall we have frozen the rates. With that, I would just ask...oh, there is a committee amendment. Thank you. You want me to go ahead?

SENATOR CUDABACK: As stated by the Clerk, there are committee amendments. Senator Jensen, you're recognized to open, as Chairman of the Health and Human Services Committee.

SENATOR JENSEN: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. The amendment strikes the original Section 1 and inserts the following new section: In determining the rate of reimbursement for childcare, the Department of Health and Human Services Finance and Support shall conduct a market rate survey of the childcare providers in the state. The Department of Health and Human Services shall adjust the reimbursement rate for childcare every odd-numbered year at a rate not less than 60...60th percentile and not to exceed 75th percentile of the current market rate survey, except that nationally accredited childcare providers may be reimbursed at a higher rate. And then, two, for the...for two years,