

February 17, 1977

LB 227, 396, 138, 138A,
88, 122, 136, 172,
194, 144

PRESIDENT: All rise for the morning prayer.

CHAPLAIN: Prayer.

PRESIDENT: The Legislature will please be in order. Roll call. Record your presence.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator DeCamp asked to be excused today and tomorrow.

PRESIDENT: Have you recorded your presence? Record Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Quorum present, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Corrections to the Journal, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: None, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Are there corrections from the floor? Seeing none, the Journal shall stand. Notices, announcements, committees.

CLERK: Read Select Committee Reports from Enrollment and Review on page 511 of the Journal. LB 227 placed on Select File as amended. LB 396 placed on Select File. LB 138 placed on Select File as amended. LB 138A placed on Select File. LB 88 placed on Select File as amended. LB 122 placed on Select File as amended. LB 136 placed on Select File as amended. LB 172 placed on Select File as amended. LB 194 placed on Select File. LB 144 placed on Select File as amended. Signed Senator Cullan, Chairman. Mr. President, your committee of Public Health to whom is referred some bills gives notice of hearings. Signed Senator Lewis. That's all Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Bills for introduction Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, I move for the introduction of the attached bill, Request No. 783, Signed by Senator Richard Lewis, Chairman of the Public Health Committee. Read Req. No. 783.

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Richard Lewis.

SENATOR R. LEWIS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. These proposed changes in the Mental Health Commitment Act results of experience in the past two years of the bill as it works in the field. The committee was asked by the Douglas County Mental Health Board, who appeared as a body before the committee and explained some of the problems that they have had with the bill as it is presently written. The most substantial change proposed by this bill concerns those persons who may be taken mentally ill, dangerous persons into immediate custody prior to the invocation of Mental Health Board proceedings under certain prescribed circumstances. The act now provides that peace officers may initiate such immediate custodial actions. This proposed bill would in addition authorize two physicians or two clinical psychologists or one physician and one clinical psychologist to take such individuals into immediate custody as prescribed. In the hearings that were held out state, we had many many parents, especially, protest that under...that the county attorneys and Mental Health Boards

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