

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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March 28, 2001 LB 523

CLERK: Mr. President, when the Legislature recessed, they were discussing the third component. Senator Chambers would move to amend that component. (FA141, Legislative Journal page 1236.)

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Chambers, you're recognized to open on your amendment to the third part of the divided committee amendments to LB 523.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I'm going to fight this bill for a long time, and in the process I'm going to deal with what the bill says. This will not be one of those times when I'm just going to make up things to say. Although along the line I will give examples and tell little analogies and allegories, especially now that we're just coming back from lunch when the bellies are full and the heads are empty and we need a little time to get some of the brain cells working. I want to give an example of how I'm going to deal with this bill. In the "Old Testament", there was a guy named Jacob and he was on a journey and he got very tired and he laid down to rest, and he put his head on a stone. Now I don't know if that meant he was stoned and they changed it around to make it right, but he put his head on a stone and he had a dream. He saw a ladder going from earth to heaven; there were people going up and down. Then this angel came, and Jacob laid hold on that angel. And the angel said, let me go. And Jacob said, no, no, no. And they tussled and they tussled and they tussled from night until morning. And the angel began to get tired, that's why you know all this is a fairy tale. The angel began to get tired and the only way he could make Jacob let him go was to touch him on the hip. Now I don't think Senator Smith likes that, but that's what the book said. And his leg came out of joint, but the angel blessed him. Well, I'm going to hang onto this bill. There was a song that was based on that called I ain't "gonna" let him go until he fills my soul. That's a religious song. I'm not "gonna" let this bill go. I've read some more over the noonhour and I've showed some of the stuff...shown some of the stuff that's in this bill to some lawyers that I just see walking up and down the hall, and they shake their head. And you know what the tragedy of this whole thing is? You cannot amend anything in this compact; you've got to accept this whole thing. You've got to put the imprimatur of