

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

April 18, 2001 LB 659

challenge those findings appropriately. So we are in agreement that the lab must be accredited. The other items that are contained in this amendment have not been objected to by anybody. They're not earthshaking. But, nevertheless, if there are questions about any of the amendments that I'm offering to the committee amendments, if there are questions about any aspect or aspects of the committee amendments which will become the bill, I hope people will be...feel free to raise those questions so that we can have a full record. Again, I want to applaud Senator Brashear for the work that he did, and this is not going to deteriorate into a mutual admiration society, but crafting legislation of this kind is not something you just get up of a morning and say, I'm going to write this bill, any more than you could get up of a morning, Senator Cudaback, and say I think I'm going to yodel. Yodeling is a musical art form that takes skill, ability and knowledge to master. Crafting legislation like this takes even more care. We're dealing with the core issue of any criminal justice or judicial system that deals with crime and punishment--the issue of innocence. We do not want one innocent person to be locked up. We want innocent people released from jail. But the question that we ought to ask and be even more concerned about is how they went to jail in the first place...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...since they are innocent. This bill is not going to solve all the problems in the criminal justice system. It is not even addressing those underlying problems in the criminal justice system. It is in the nature of an eraser whose goal is to correct some possible miscarriages of justice. So I'm offering this amendment to the committee amendments and, once again, I'll answer any questions that you may have.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. You've heard the opening on AM1487 to the committee amendments to LB 659. There were several lights on prior to the amendment. If you don't wish to address the amendment your light will remain on. Senator Brown.

SENATOR BROWN: Thank you, Mr. President. I will speak to the