

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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FLOOR DEBATE

April 11, 2003      LB 74, 305, 348, 804

CLERK: Well, Mr. President, Senator Erdman would move to amend, AM1033. (Legislative Journal page 1083.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Erdman, to open on your amendment, AM1033, to LB 305.

SENATOR ERDMAN: Thank you. Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, I feel we've discussed this very thoroughly. Let me briefly go through again what's in the amendment. AM1033 is comprised of LB 348, as amended unanimously by the Natural Resources Committee. It also contains LB 74, which was advanced unanimously, and LB 804, which was advanced unanimously. I would encourage your support on AM1033 and would be willing to answer any additional questions. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: You've heard the opening on AM1033 to LB 305. Open for discussion on that amendment. Senator Bourne.

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you, members, Senator Cudaback. I was going to...I realize that we cannot divide a returned amendment. Once it's returned from Select...or from Final to Select, we can't divide it, but I tell you if there was ever a situation where we should divide it, it is this one. I think that this is wholly inappropriate to put such a significant amendment on a Final Reading bill, and why do I say that? I mean, do we need to make the lakes and the rivers and streams and that safer? Perhaps, but none of us know exactly what these things do. Is 25...what Senator Erdman is recommending is that individuals under the age of 25, so we're going to say a 25-year-old adult with...who knows, has children, has been boating for 10 or 15 years, has to have a training class. That doesn't even make sense. And what I tried to say earlier is that, you know, we have a process here. You start out with a hearing. You have people come in and testify in support or opposition, and then the bill kind of is worked from there. Somebody says, well, I don't like this idea; this would impact me in this way or that way; so then it comes out and you debate it on General File. And after it's advanced or after it's advanced on General File after the discussion, there's hopefully news reports about it. Your constituents will write in or call or e-mail and say this