

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

May 15, 2003

LB 760, 808

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Brashear. That was opening on LB 760. Senator Brashear, do you want to treat that as your opening on the committee amendments also?

SENATOR BRASHEAR: No.

SENATOR CUDABACK: You want to speak to the committee amendments now?

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Please.

SENATOR CUDABACK: You're recognized to treat...you're recognized to open on AM1586 by the Judiciary Committee to LB 760 if you wish to.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: (Laugh) Thank you, Mr. President. I understand, Senator Cudaback, your desire to cut me off. But actually that's so I can get two slots. (Laugh)

SENATOR CUDABACK: You're welcome to do whatever you wish.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Thank you. Also within the committee amendment, you'll find LB 808. This committee amendment...this bill was introduced by your Appropriations Committee. LB 808 would allow the Chief Justice to designate certain days as nonjudicial days, during which courts could be closed. This is a matter of economy. We obviously don't take any delight in closing courts. But the fact is that some courts are less utilized on some days than on others. And this will provide the discretion for the Chief Justice in leading the court system to allow courts to close, and to make that a matter of official business, so that people are not confused or unserved thereby. Finally, there is an A bill to follow, which will eliminate the General Fund appropriation to the Commission on Public Advocacy. And I offer that explanation in support of my concept that this is General Fund relieving legislation. It will reduce the funds to the...General Funds to the court, to accommodate the effect of the amendment. The committee amendment was advanced on a unanimous 8-0 vote for your consideration. I would urge your consideration of it, your adoption of the amendment, and your