

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

March 24, 2004 LB 962, 1049, 1083

punishment. You all don't want to call it that, so let's say weeks of disqualification. But the problem with her approach is that she is going to take what currently is the maximum and make that the minimum, then scale it upward from there. So I will oppose what she is doing too. This is a bad bill and it cannot be made good. Unfortunately, it's before us so I've just got to deal with it as the rest of the body would do if a bill was out here that they did not agree with. Now I did not talk at all on Senator Raikes' bill about merging these little school districts or big ones or whatever it does. I didn't say anything on LB 1083. They are big bills that I've left alone, left completely alone. I even stopped after a point talking about LB 962, which is the water bill. So I've backed away from my position far more than the body has backed away from its position. It still wants to be hardhearted and unfair and then expect me to be accommodating and say, well, I won't push... I won't fight these other bills. That's the only tactic that I have and I will use it, and in these last 12 days, I will use it with a vengeance. And maybe my saying that does alienate some people, but they will be reacting emotionally. They will be basing their reaction on how they feel. Mine is a settled, thought-out determination that I will follow through on.

SENATOR CUDABACK PRESIDING

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Some of you just stop and think for a minute how many times when a bill is up that I'm working that you don't like and you will come to me and say, Ernie, how long are you going to fight that bill? How hard are you going to fight it? Oh, yes, you'll come to me. Senator Friend shook his head and said not me. The old people used to say, first hen that cackles lays the egg, first hen that cackles lays the egg. Senator Friend, a guilty conscious needs no accuser so don't give yourself away like that because people make judgments. There are people who know. They know who they are, Senator Friend, I assure you. But even though I know they're not going to stand up, it doesn't put me in the frame of mind to say, well, I'm not going to stand up either. I'm going to do what I think I ought to and they know it. So they can sit back and just wait and