

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

March 24, 2004 LB 1049

hope that I'm successful.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But on a matter like this...oh, thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator, your light is next so you may continue.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. But on a matter like this, I'm acting on behalf of nobody on the floor of the Legislature. This is for the people who work. This is for people who pay union dues. It's for people who think that they have somebody connected with organized labor who will speak in their behalf on issues such as this. They don't know they have been betrayed. They don't know they have been sold out. But if you look at the results of what the Legislature is contemplating in this bill, it will be clear to those people that something very bad has happened. They don't have representation. They don't have a spokesperson. So it becomes my job to do that, and that's what I'm going to do. So let me get back into this bill as I was discussing it. To show how careless and slipshod Senator Cunningham was, on page 3 of the bill dealing with existing language, it says the following: For the week in which he or she has been discharged for misconduct connected with his or her job, if so found by the commissioner, Senator Cunningham strikes the 7 to 10 weeks and for 13 weeks, which immediately follow such weeks, as determined by the commissioner in each case according to the seriousness of the misconduct. Are there dumbbells on the floor of the Legislature? If you've got one punishment, how can you say you judge each case on the basis of its seriousness? Why didn't he strike that language to make his bill consistent because he knows the rest of you are not going to read the bill. And until I bring it up on the floor, nobody even pays attention to it. My job is hard, trying to get the Legislature to do what it ought to do. You won't even read the bills that you're supporting, and I have to take a bill I don't like and point out the flaws in it. The Attorney General has a staff of lawyers and I have to rewrite a bill. Then you all think, because you stick your lips out as long as a fishing pole