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April 2, 2004 LB 1090, 1091

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. On with debate.
Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature, the Speaker reminded me that we're in critical need of time, and he's right, of course. So I'm not going to speak any longer on any of the budget bills till we get through them. But since I had passed out two charts to you, I wanted to at least explain that they came from me. I hope there will be some opportunity in future times to talk about them, because I think these two charts illustrate better than anything I've ever seen the slow destruction of the middle class that's happening in this country and in this state. And I hope you'll take a look at them. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I know that we're running short on time. But there still remains enough to do everything that we have to do. And LB 1090 is going to advance this morning. Everybody knows that. Senator Schimek only said that she is thinking about...maybe she said she'd vote against it. She didn't say she's going to put forth an effort to stop it. Nobody has said they will do that. I acknowledged yesterday the importance of LB 1090 and LB 1091, and suggested that probably LB 1090 is going to be advanced in the form it is in, without any of these proposals having been attached. Those who offered their proposals, did they lose? They may have lost something. They have to make that determination. But one thing is certain. They were not pushed to the point of taking a vote. You all know the way I view my work here, if you listen to me and take me seriously. When a serious matter is put before us, I deal with it in that manner. And other people come forth, and they're serious, but they run out of gas and lose heart, and then they want to pull out and say, well, I don't want to go on with it. Well, it's too late at that point. That's like if...let me give an example, because some of you all don't look at consequences. If a very handsome gentleman, if you're a heterosexual female, a very beautiful woman, if you're a heterosexual male, if a very handsome man, if