

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

April 12, 2005 LB 673

You are the ones who determine what the state is going to do by the laws that you enact. You determine the policy of the state. I have said it, I've said it again, and I'll repeat it now, Legislatures have the lazy practice of compartmentalizing issues so that they need not be discussed in a unified, coherent, logical manner. If we were talking about property taxes, you'd have people jumping up on this floor like jacks and jills in and out of the boxes. I don't want to raise property taxes. No, I'm not going to raise property taxes. When I ran, I said I wouldn't vote for a property tax increase. Heavens no, I won't vote for a...

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...property tax increase. And those who are a little saltier would give the name of the place opposite of Heaven to let you know how determined they are not to have a property tax increase. So we come to something that's going to burden the property owner with the responsibility that belongs to the state, and you sit here like corpses in a tomb. This is like the valley of the dry bones. There needs to be a wind going through this valley of the dry bones, make them stir. Join the foot bone to the ankle bone to the shin bone to the knee bone to the thigh bone to the hip bone to the back bone to the shoulder bone, and right on up to the head bone, and hope you put something in the head to think with. And you're not thinking. You're not being consistent, you're not being true to the promises you made. You don't care about the property owner, do you? I do. And you've been told over and over, they don't even live in my district. They live in you-all's district, the good people, the ones with all the principles, the "ruralies," the simple way of life, the bonding to God and nature. And you don't care about your own property owners.

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you Senator Chambers. (Visitors introduced.) Senator Louden.