

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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SENATOR CHAMBERS: And when you have a helping verb and a verb, you don't usually separate the helping verb from the verb by inserting a word between them. Is that true or false?

SENATOR BYARS: My grammar instructor, Mrs. Souther (phonetic), would be very proud of you, Senator.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So the way it's structured in the current law is not the most grammatical way, or even the proper grammatical way that it should be written. Would you agree with that?

SENATOR BYARS: It could probably be, you know, on the borderline of being okay, but could be better.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Byars, we could use illiteracies in the statute in the same way illiteracies are uttered on the floor, couldn't we?

SENATOR BYARS: Yes, we could.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And people might be able to read what we wrote and understand what we intended to say. Would you agree?

SENATOR BYARS: I would absolutely agree.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Is that the way we write legislation, though? Or should it be the way we write legislation?

SENATOR BYARS: We should make every effort not to write our legislation that way.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: If we are writing a composition in grade school, we could use...we could misspell words, but the teacher could look at it and figure what we're trying to spell. Is that correct?

SENATOR BYARS: That is correct.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: We could use incorrect grammar, we could use double negatives, we could have dangling modifiers, we could