

are dishonest,...

SENATOR WARNER: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...dishonest in small things, so dishonest that if the law doesn't say that if you receive more than \$50 for giving a talk, the presumption is that you're not worth that amount and you took that as a payoff to buy your vote or your abstention from voting on a matter pending before the Legislature. Any other group would be insulted at that type of a proposition. Personally, people can say what they want to about me, that's not. And they do anyway, there's no way I can make somebody who thinks that I'm dishonest believe that I'm honest. There's no way I can make somebody who disagrees with a position of mine, based on how they feel in their gizzard, adopt my position no matter how learnedly or eloquently I argue it. So some things are not going to be changed based on what we do. This is a cosmetic piece of legislation aimed, in my opinion...

SENATOR WARNER: Time, Senator Chambers, but I will recognize you again for your full five minutes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. This kind of thing is aimed at trying to allay the attitude of certain editors, certain political observers, and others who are not going to be mollified. Now it's clear from the existing language in the law that an honorarium and a gift are different. A gift is that which is given without strings attached and for no reason. That's why, based on the way I understand the law, once a gift is given, the one who gives it cannot take it back. Once you give the gift and it leaves you, you give up all title, right, ownership and everything you have and the person receiving it need not give anything in return. Once you let it go, every string that attaches it to you is cut. If there is something in the nature of a quid pro quo, if you don't get the quid, you don't have to give the quo. That's like a contract. You have to have some consideration, a meeting of the minds. What we're talking about here is something which is fluid and incapable of being reduced to a precise formula. I don't care who knows what I get for giving a talk because the talks I give are given to groups who make a report to the IRS. They're the only ones that maybe we have to worry about. And I'm not going to refuse or fail to acknowledge what I receive and I was, Senator Withem, giving talks before I got in the Legislature. Ironically, I was getting more in those days than I get now. But I'm...I'm very