

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

March 19, 1999

LB 72

But then on a bill of mine, where they've got this concern, they don't come to me then. See, that's the kind of underhanded, double-dealings, backstabbing that I don't like. She cannot talk to me about anything again. I work with these people, and I'm going to stop saying, in vague terms, a lobbyist. I'll identify the person, the name might be Campbell, and she knows it, and I talked to her on more than one occasion about that bill. And then to pull something like this. If they had come to me and said this is the problem that we have with the bill and we argue it out, and we don't agree, then I know where things are, and I know what to deal with, and everything is on the table. When I've got several different versions to do every thing within reason the county attorneys wanted, several pulled back. Then give all this work to the police and get all that done. How am I supposed to be expected to read the mind of somebody sitting down there in Lincoln, or their lobbyist, and say, oh, I had better ask her, do I have permission to go forward with this bill. When I bring legislation and things are done in a way that I think is fair, then I lose a bill, then I lost it, but when lines are crossed, brothers and sisters, I don't care about the bill anymore. Other things are involved now. So let me tell you exactly where I am, and you can punish me, as you call it, but you can't punish me but you can cast a vote that you think might punish me. I don't care what you do with the bill now. Pass it, kill it, I don't care, but this is where we live for the rest of this session, and I will be here every day, all day, and you all need to start telling those people outside this Chamber that you all listen to and will be used to sabotage me that they are playing or trying to play with the wrong person. People thought, Senator Chris Peterson, by the time I reached this advanced age, I would be sitting in the penitentiary somewhere or dead for having thrown fire bombs at the establishment. But I didn't, but I know how, analogously speaking, to throw a fire bomb in the legislative process. So I've asked that the bill be returned for the amendment. I am presenting the amendment. I am asking that it be adopted, obviously, but for those of you who feel pressured by lobbyists or anybody else so that it would put you in a bind to vote for it, just don't vote for it. Don't vote for it as a favor to me because I am not going to see it as a favor. As far as I'm concerned, it can be killed.