

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

March 22, 1999 LB 142

others say that we should do what the public told us to do, referring to the passage of Amendment 2, and part of it dealt with what LB 142 deals with. Well, the people told us, don't have a mandatory seat belt law. That's what the people told us, but we disregard that. So all of these principles that are stated are flexible and changing and shifting. In fact, Senator Byars, as I stand here and look at you sitting there and taking into consideration what I'm saying, I've thought of a rhyme that I'm going to have ready for you all by Friday on the nature of politics. But when Senator Beutler raises an issue such as this, I'm kind of amused because Senator Beutler led the charge to get rules that would restrict me. But I will never vote for a rule that's going to prevent us from operating in the most free-wheeling manner possible. I will not vote to uphold the Chair, when to do so will prevent the discussion of an issue that I think is germane to what is before us. See, brothers and sisters, there is a difference between saying that the issue that is contained in an amendment has no relationship to the bill, and saying that the amendment is raising a difficult issue. Those are different things. However technical, complex, or difficult the issue is that the amendment raises, we should not, on that basis alone, or primarily on that basis, vote to say that it's not germane. So I'm going to vote to overrule the Chair.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: We are not going to escape this issue. We will do as they say when time comes to pay the piper, pay now or pay later, but pay you certainly shall. Now I don't care about these natural resources districts. I don't even know what they are, and I don't want anybody to explain it to me either. I don't know what ESUs and don't care about those, but they do something for somebody, apparently. I'm dealing only with whether or not we should overrule the Chair. I'm not touching on the underlying issue contained in Senator Beutler's amendment. And I will vote to overrule the Chair for the reasons that I've given.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Beutler, you're recognized to close on motion to overrule the Chair.