

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

March 22, 1999 LB 149

will be...well, he won't be baked, he'll be cooked. This is one of those situations where I think we ought to do the right thing. I misspoke when I got ready to sit down and I had said...I believe I said, if we don't override the veto. What I meant to say is if we do override the veto it will be an error. Senator Kristensen offered an amendment that would have alleviated the situation to some extent and his amendment was rejected. I think what ought to be done, and it won't be done, but I've said these things in the past and it would turn out, as events unfolded, that I was correct, we ought to uphold the veto. Then we ought to just, with one of these shell bills or with some other bill, with enough votes here it could easily be done, another bill could even be introduced by suspending the rules and you could accelerate its action through the Legislature and add the Kristensen amendment. Let that be a part of the bill and then go ahead and do it again and do it the right way. As I've said to my young colleagues, especially Senator John (sic) Bourne, Senator John (sic) Bourne, no matter how far you've gone down the road in the wrong direction it's never too late to stop and turn around and come back in the proper direction. I know that there is the mood of a stampede now and maybe a few more people will join those three of us who have been voting the correct way, in my opinion, on this bill. But that few will not be enough. After the vote is taken, after the veto is overridden, we then will have time to repent at leisure. And I think more problems are being created than are being solved, and the Legislature certainly will have reduced itself in terms of the integrity of the system and its willingness to do that which we are supposed to do. I think it is very gratifying to succeed in pushing a bill through like this if that's what you're trying to do, and I would never expect Senator Bohlke to relinquish the ground that she has won. I would expect her to do all she can to hold onto what she has won. But the rest of us are in a position where we should exercise some independent judgment.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Who can be mocked more than I can by voting to uphold the Governor's veto? I've talked about him every opportunity I've had. I've been rather gentle, but it's clear that the Governor and I don't see eye to eye, and it's not like