

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

March 22, 1999 LB 495

I'm guess I'm going to be the only one to talk about the moral aspects of what we're doing because we're talking about money. There will be other occasions when my colleagues are going to moralize on the floor, but all they are worried about is if there is going to be enough of this wicked money to continue funding this program or will there be other holy programs in need of funding which will need to be funded by the devil's currency. I am using all these terms because they come from the religion in which I was raised but which, like old Paul, the Imposter, said, when I was a child, I thought as a child, I spoke as a child, I behaved as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things. So all that superstition and mumble-jumble that my parents, meaning well, taught me, I've lain that aside, laid it aside. But you all, who still profess to believe in it, and you have your rituals every morning here, throw it out the window when we come to these matters. That's why I didn't want a chaplain in here in the first place. If religion meant anything to me like you all pretend it means to you, I would not degrade it by having it brought into a place such as this. Those prayers that are uttered go no higher than this ceiling, may not even go that high. Senator Pederson stole an example I was going to use and that's about, again, what old Jesus said. Well, he was only 33 years old when he croaked, but he said, the foolish builder builds a house on the sand. Then, when the rains come and the water flows, the house falls. The wise builder builds the house on a rock. Then it can withstand the wind, the rain, and all these other things. So why is that not applied? Those things are taught to children. So if, indeed, what you're doing here with this approach is to build on the sand, why will you do that? Your leader told you not to do it. No, not just your leader, the one you worship. It's kind of interesting, Senator Hilgert, that when this man was breathing his last, the soldiers gambled for his garments. They were down at the foot of the cross gambling for his garments, gambling right there. But what some people might say is that the fact that it was gambling going on at the time that Jesus was dying, that sanctified gambling and made it all right because Jesus or God didn't strike the gamblers dead, so that makes gambling all right. That's why the churches do it. It's why the Legislature does it. But you don't want your children to do this holy thing, you don't want the children to participate in what is doing so much good for society. It would