

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

March 23, 1999

LB 495

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President and members of the Legislature, I told you all yesterday I was going to bring a bracket motion again. Last night, yesterday evening, I had brought one that would have bracketed until some time in January of next year. This simply is not a good approach that is being taken by this bill and I'm just going to fight it, and fight it, and fight it. I'm kind of glad we have young people here this morning because those who support using gambling money to provide education can encourage these young people to go out and buy lottery tickets. That's what can be done, but it's against the law if they do that. So they have a true civics lesson this morning in that they see their elected representatives saying that money, which if the activity which produces the money, if engaged in by youngsters, would violate the law. So the gambling is bad. It is illegal for youngsters to participate in the gambling, but those who want to trick weak people into gambling away their money and giving it to the state so that those things that ought to be paid for through taxes will not have to be paid for through taxes, they will try to clean it up by saying, we're going to do some good with this money. So if there are young people up there who steal, give some of it to the church and it's all right. If you have a mind to hit somebody in the head and take their purse, make sure you pay your tithes and give half of it to your family and give part of it to some charitable operation and it cleans it up and makes it all right. But you know and I know that's not what they teach you. They tell you that you're supposed to do what's right no matter what anybody else does, but it's kind of difficult to accept that when those preaching the righteousness cannot practice the things they preach. When those who have all of the experience, have all of the education, who are wise and understand much more than young people do now and perhaps ever will nevertheless live a life that tells you the principles they're laying down for you mean nothing, they're like words written in water. They sound good, they tickle the palate, they amuse people, but as far as applying them to life, you don't do that. You young people are looking at the best that this society can produce. That's what you're looking at on the floor of this Legislature--the people who have been elected and sent here to pass laws because we're smarter, we're wiser, we are more righteous. But when we get down here we tend to forget