

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

March 24, 1999 LB 476

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Chambers, you're recognized on your amendment.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I'm going to take a number of whippings on this bill. But, like they say about that...that watch, take a lickin' and keep on tickin'. I'm still in kind of a mellow mood, based on the proper thing we did with that ag bill this morning, and in that same spirit of collegiality, I'm trying to work my way to a compromise. I'm going to continue to reduce this fee, until I reach a happy medium, where we can raise it from the proposed \$100 to something that is more in keeping with what it is likely to cost to do all of these things that Senator Schimek ran off. But here's what will be good, if the NRA will tell its minions, in here, don't accept any amendments, and the bill should happen to pass, which I doubt is going to be the case, what will the Patrol and these others do, who have responsibilities, if there's not enough money for them to do it? What will they do? All the people have done who are trying to get this piece of claptrap into the law is to avoid having an A bill, avoid any state money being spent. That's all they're interested in. The rest of us should look at this matter and decide if that is an appropriate way to legislate. I happen to think it is not. I'm doing two things here today. I'm battering this bill. I'm not really battering it yet, I'm kind of tweaking this bill, making or offering minor adjustments here and there. The real battle has not even been joined yet. Those who are outside the Chamber pushing for this kind of legislation will bear no direct responsibility for any problems that develop. They'll sit back and push the senators and say, do this, do that, do the other, and the senators will feel, more or less, that they've got to do it. Well, we don't got to do anything. What we ought to do is that which is wise. If this legislation is not enacted this year, as it has not been enacted in previous years, no harm will befall the state. No harm has befallen the state because we have failed to pass this legislation during the past few times it has been brought before us. I will not yield on this issue. I'd like to ask Senator Tyson, he's the only one here that I see who's strongly in favor of this bill, a question.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Tyson, would you yield to a