

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

April 21, 1999 LB 76

flippant and act as though this is just any run-of-the-mill matter that we're discussing. I would like to ask Senator Bruning a question before I proceed.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD PRESIDING

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Bruning, would you yield?

SENATOR BRUNING: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Bruning, is it within your plans to run for Attorney General?

SENATOR BRUNING: I have no idea, Senator.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Oh, I think you have an idea, either you know or you don't know. Are you denying that you intend to do that? Well, let me ask it this way, is it your intention to do that, because you know whether or not it's your intention?

SENATOR BRUNING: Senator, I do not. It's my intention to run for reelection to the Legislature next year.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Bruning. I want that on the record. Members of the Legislature, the reason I brought it up, Senator Bruning was speaking like a politician because he doesn't have his facts straight. First of all, he suggests that I'm concerned only about the issue of whether black people are executed out of proportion to our numbers. I'm concerned about that. I don't want anybody executed, no matter who they kill. I've made that clear repeatedly, but he doesn't listen. He got that wrong. He also said the next person in line to be executed, and then he listed a group of white people. The next person in line to be executed is Randolph Reeves, a Native American, and he is on death row, not because of premeditated first degree murder. That couldn't be proved against him because of his mental state. He is on death row because of utilization of the felony murder rule where you don't have to prove intent to kill. That's the only way they could get him. Now Senator Schrock admitted he doesn't know anything about this issue, but he also acknowledged that the imposition of the death penalty is unfair, and he went even further to say it will never