

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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over the throne in England, and he was very anti-Catholic, and he was happy to do so. And he had been a soldier, and he had a wife named Mary, and she became queen, and they were joint monarchs, William and Mary. So when they took to the battlefield, William of Orange led the troops and they surrounded James and his forces and wiped out about 2,000 of them. But the bulk were allowed to escape, and the battle continued in Ireland. And there was a terrible price that people had to pay. There were laws, in 1695, put in place known as the penal laws. Many times people bet on the wrong horse and they lose everything. The Irish clung to Charles I. He was executed. When the monarchy was restored in England and James II took over, they clung to him and he abdicated and raised what he called an army. And the Irish Catholics bet their money on him and they lost again. And they probably have not stopped suffering from the 1600's. And what do those orangemen do, because that battle at that river took place on July 12, 1690. So those guys dress up and they march in Ireland every July 12th, and they march through Catholic areas. And the religious rancor...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...and conflict which have wracked Ireland for centuries is reignited on an annual basis. But some people think that maybe a point is being approached today where that may be to some extent, they hope to a great extent, a thing of the past.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. We are discussing FA280 to the divided committee amendments, part two, to LB 175. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. The last of those penal laws were repealed in 1829, that's a long time to be under some bad laws where, if you're a Catholic, you can't vote, you can't hold office, you can't practice law, you're reduced to being paupers. Churches were shut down, priests were hunted down, schools were closed, ignorance was rife. When you can impoverish people and keep them ignorant, then you can do just about whatever you want to them. And these were all Irish people, fighting against each other in the way that history is