

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

March 8, 2000

LB 1004

look at what the bill is purporting to accomplish. What kind of offenses and convictions in other states could be used in this state for enhancing a person's punishment? That's all that I was doing, just rewriting. I still have problems with the bill. I don't know whether to try to offer amendments to this amendment, which could be done, because that's all we have left of the bill anyway. It replaces every thing that the E & R amendments offered, and the E & R amendments replaced every thing in the bill. So what you have before you now is what will be the bill. It doesn't matter whether amendments are attempted now or after this is adopted, if it's adopted. Usually, when you do something like this, you want it to be accepted and approved, don't you? But my purposes probably would be better served, because I don't think the body is of a mind to do the fair thing, if you reject what I have offered, those of you who have a little irritation with me, this is a time to get a little payback; vote no. I've spent more time writing this bill than I did on any bill of my own ever because mine don't start out in such a jumble that I have to unscramble the eggs for it and then start all over again. So you could really take a chunk out of me, take a bite out of crime by rejecting this amendment. I worked. You would deprive me of the fruits of my work, but if you adopt it, then you're going to say that what a grand bill drafter I am, how capable and competent I am. So that's what you're looking at, and we know that any time I'm involved with something, more is being considered than the piece of work that's before us. Much more is always involved. Do you know why I say that? I don't present many bills to this Legislature, and my bills don't spend money, but mine draw more opposition and more attack and made the Governor do more work than he has ever done on any bill since he's been in office, on a piddling little bill that has not that much consequence to anybody. That's what the legislation results in that I bring to this body. I don't know what in the world possessed me, other than temporary insanity, that would lead me to do all the work that I did on this bill, but at the time I did the work on this bill, I was not able to forecast the way others would treat me...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...who have an interest in this bill. So I'm not going to back out of what I agreed to do because my word