

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

March 23, 2000 LB 1222

trying to be collegial, I will not take my entire ten minutes on my opening, but I am going to speak again.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Now we're open for debate on the bracket motion for LB 1222. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: To begin with, I guess I would offer my time to Senator Vrtiska, to give him an opportunity to respond directly first. Then I'll turn my light right back on, Mr. Speaker or Senator Cudaback.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Vrtiska.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Of course I'm going to oppose the bracket motion or any other motion that Senator Chambers may bring forth, and I realize that's his prerogative, and if he wants to try to kill a bill that would offer some hope to some people that I have dealt with, then that's certainly his privilege. I'm disappointed that he has decided to take after my bill at this point in the session, but I understand the way the system works and if that's his desire there's not much I can do about it, obviously. I will tell you that the money to fund this bill is in the Governor's budget. That's probably one of the reasons why Ernie doesn't... Senator Chambers doesn't like it. But the fact of the matter of it is it's a bill that we worked on long and hard during the summer and fall months to come up with a bill that would provide some kind of help for rural Nebraska. Senator Chambers indicates that he supports farmers and their plight but he's not going to support this. Certainly that's his privilege. I... I am deeply disappointed that he has decided to attack me in this bill and the thing that I'm trying to provide and the amount of money that comes out of this bill and an opportunity for many people. As I indicated in my opening, I've had a number of people who have contacted me and are excited about the opportunity to become a part of this program and to... sort of a help thing to get some issues... some project... projects started that will provide them some relief financially. If Senator Chambers doesn't want it then, of course, that's his privilege to oppose it and I respect that. But I'm going to urge the people to vote against the bracket motion and to continue to support what I think is good legislation, as I indicated, that already has the