

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

March 27, 2000 LB 1010

purposes", I state it, "for purposes of sale", just like instead of saying it is John's coat, it is the coat of John. Sometimes I do things that are so clear...

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: It...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...and uncomplicated that it begins to look mysterious and "hidden agendaish", which it isn't.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Senator, I wasn't thinking that perhaps you had a hidden agenda. I was trying to check your grammar. This is...you do have the identical phrase appearing as the first three words...three of the first four words of the sentence. We have a very long sentence that is a whole paragraph. It is a little bit hard to tell what you're modifying with that clause if you...if you state it that way.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, whatever you were modifying (laughter) I'm modifying the same thing. (Laughter)

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Well, Senator, I think it makes very little difference and it does make the paragraph end very nicely, as it begins.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: In other words, we end as we began. Members of the Legislature, when you're...when you want to enclose words kind of parenthetically you would use parentheses, or you could use brackets. Brackets usually indicate that you're putting something into the sentence that is not in the original. You're adding that to make it flow more smoothly or to cause people to understand or to insert something that is not in that specific statement but it's higher up in the text so you would use brackets. But you would not, at the beginning of that material, use a bracket, then at the end use a parenthesis. So it begins, for purposes of sale, and this would be the other parentheses, or if that was a bracket this would be the bracket, but it tracks the language. It brings consistency, a kind of balance and symmetry, if you will. So as these kinds of things come before us, and as I've done on other bills, I would do that and, remember, I tried to do it while Senator Wickersham's amendment was up there and it would have been just one of those easy things to either accept or reject, but now it has to be done as