

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

March 28, 2000 LB 1405

**SPEAKER KRISTENSEN:** Senator Schrock.

**SENATOR SCHROCK:** Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I believe in my eight years in this body I've never spoken out on pro-life issues, if you want to characterize this debate as that. But I still have to come down on the side of the unborn. Senator Suttle, I agree with you, it's a terrible disease, Alzheimer's. I have an aunt, in a nursing home now, who really you see no point in visiting with her because she doesn't recognize you, doesn't seem to know much. And it happened probably over a period of three or four years, and I don't know how much longer she's going to live. It's a sad state of affairs. I hope we find a cure for that. I don't know the answer. I have a lot of admiration for people like Senator Crosby and Senator Dierks who have always stood firm on this issue, I think it's the right stand, and I've always concluded that's the way I had to vote on issues like this. Having said that, I don't have the answers, but I will give the rest of my time to Senator Brashear, if he would like it.

**SPEAKER KRISTENSEN:** Senator Brashear.

**SENATOR BRASHEAR:** Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I'm going to begin with a personal aspect and dispose of it. It is...you have heard allegations, and they may very well be true and substantive, that there has been a failure of leadership with regard to the Judiciary Committee. And I want to tell you that I am, by virtue of your vote, the leader and, if there has been a failure, then you clearly ought to change that leadership. I take that responsibility. The only thing...there are no excuses in life. The only thing I will offer in my defense is that we have a very talented, capable group of people, all very independent-minded, and I will admit that I tried to preserve a somewhat collegial atmosphere in the face of what I think is above average potentiality for conflict and enjoy my role in doing so. However, if it's not productive for this body and for the people of this state, then it should be changed and changed forthwith. Secondly, with all due respect, I wrote a letter that's in the public domain that said the bill is unconstitutional. But...and that's fine. Those who want to say that, should say that, but methinks ye doth protest too much. I've seen one or more bad bills come to this floor in six years