

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

April 4, 2000

LB 1021

something that we should do at our retreat in the fall, is spend an hour or so just going over some of these kinds of questions. So, thank you for your question. And I will release the rest of my time back to the Chair.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Senator Brashear, on the amendment.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Thank you. Mr. President, members of the body, first of all, I was off the floor, but I was listening, and I will be supportive of moving the Wickersham amendment, AM3201, in order that we can get it as the bill in principle and begin our amendments to it. I think this is good work. And I know that Senator Schimek and Senator Wickersham, and others who I saw gathered around the table over here for hours, have worked diligently on this. I think that generally and specifically this is an area that needs to be addressed, if for no other reason than to demonstrate that we are in fact diligent about taking care of our own affairs and being careful about how we are perceived by the public. I intend to be supportive throughout. I particularly like Senator Coordsen's viewpoint. If you take Senator Chambers' concept of the motivation for a gift and you couple it with Senator Coordsen's concept as to where the burden ought to be, then those who have something to, quote, be gained, if that's going to be the innuendo or allegation or supposition or whatever, those who have something to be gained are the people who ought to be burdened with all the reporting. And I particularly appreciate what the amendment accomplishes in that regard. Senator Schimek, would you yield to some questions, please?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Schimek.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Senator Schimek, my concern may or may not be apparent, but I'll try to lay it out. The present reporting laws talk in terms of a public official as that's defined by statute. And I can read that at 49-14,101 and know exactly who we're covering. When we change in this amendment to the concept of "official in the executive branch," that is not as specific, detailed, and particularly identified a definition. And I'm