

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

April 12, 2000 LB 1021

Bruning has done this...they say, anybody can do what Senator Chambers does. But as the song said, "nobody does it better." And in most cases, nobody does it as well. I don't just do things for no purpose. I have a reason, I have a goal I'm seeking to achieve. And I don't see that being done this morning by Senator Bruning's bracket motion by the way it is constructed. But even with his motion, I'm not offended that he offered it. I'm just pointing out the situation we'll be in even if he leaves it up and we vote on it. I have never offered a motion which, if you adopted it, was going to go contrary to what my intention is. Nevertheless, I will say this about the bill. Senator Beutler laid out very clearly what the bill does. Contrary to what Senator Lynch and others have suggested about the bill indicating that all of us are crooks, since the greater weight of the bill falls on lobbyists and what they must do, it could appear that lobbyists are the ones who are concerned about the bill, and are saying, for my sake, don't pass that bill, I don't want to report differently, I don't want to have to break down into categories my expenses and expenditures. So all of us can put any spin we choose on what anybody does. Since this is a bill that deals primarily with lobbyists and how they report, opposition to the bill could simply seem to be opposition to making lobbyists accountable...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...and letting the public know what it is they're doing. So since we're saying people ought to think about what we're doing, Senator Bruning, since he's an ambitious young politician, should consider whether he wants his record in the future to show that he was opposed to a bill that would require lobbyists to report, and that he is susceptible to pressure from lobbyists who don't want to report. Everybody will vote for or against this bill for whatever reason he or she (recorder malfunction.) But considering the discussion, it would be wise to consider what the vote may indicate to the public, if that's what people are concerned about.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Coordsen on the motion to bracket LB 1021.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body.