

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

January 30, 2003 LB 19

as Section 25-1214 of the revised statutes. But this statutory reference was repealed in 1975. LB 19 inserts a reference to the current statute that provides for impeaching a witness about his or her criminal conduct at Section 27-609. Your Judiciary Committee heard this bill on January 22, 2003, and unanimously advanced it to the floor. I urge your advancement of the bill. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Brashear. You've heard the opening on LB 19. Open for discussion. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I support this bill. But pursuant to a practice I think I'm going to follow, when I think something has been done or said toward the Legislature or a member that goes to the point of offending me as a member of the Legislature, I'm going to comment on it. I will not ask for a point of personal privilege, but this bill that Senator Brashear is offering gives me that chance. It's not a controversial bill. I'm not opposed to it. I'm not trying to delay it. So I'm going to take this opportunity in order to help us make efficient use of the time. When I was in school, you know what a teacher would do who would be upset at children talking? (Claps hands.) And put those lips together so tight that it looked like a hard line drawn across the bottom of their mouth. And then they would glare. When I read this morning the Governor attacked one of my colleagues, a female colleague, I was furious, outraged, indignant, offended, and even disturbed. My feeling is that he ought to pick on somebody his own size, like me. I have said far harsher things, not only about the Governor's suggestions, but about the Governor. I've gotten no letter from him. I know Senator Beutler is not bracing himself and shaking in his boots waiting for a chastising letter from this Governor, because as I read the front page of one of the newspapers this morning, Senator Beutler had some negative remarks about proposed cuts by the Governor. And you know what happened in that instance? The Governor's mouthpiece would not even respond to what Senator Beutler said, based on what the paper wrote. So the Governor should understand that I am maybe a chauvinist, because I'm taking the position that the way I was reared is the way I ought to conduct myself. And the way I was reared led me to do what