

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

February 11, 2003 LB 186

interest in the scenic byways. I think your Tourism Department would argue very strongly that they don't want junkyards along the scenic byways and that we ought to have a state program and a state outlook with regard to that particular matter, and this bill would open it up to having junkyards along scenic byways that are not beautified in any way. The basic law that we get around to here is a provision that says, no person shall locate or maintain a junkyard any portion of which is within 1,000 feet of the nearest edge of the right-of-way of any roadway in what was formerly defined as the Highway Beautification Central Control...or, Highway Beautification Control System. So it deals only with a space of 1,000 feet from these particular highways. And then it says, no permit will be granted for the location or maintenance of a junkyard within 1,000 feet of the right-of-way of these roads, except the following: those which are screened by natural objects, plantings, fences, or other appropriate means, so as not to be visible from the main-traveled way...the roadway. Not an unreasonable requirement. The...it also says that those located within areas that are zoned for industrial use under the authority of the law of the municipality or county. So those are excepted. And then it says, those located within unzoned industrial areas, which areas shall be determined from actual land uses and defined by rules to be promulgated by the department. Those are excepted out. Those are which...those which are not visible from the main-traveled road. Those are excepted out. So what we're doing here with this bill is returning back to the bad old days when there were a lot of problems with junkyards along roadways that are part of our image and our appeal to other states and to visitors. I think this bill is unnecessary. I would be interested in hearing any problems that have developed because of this bill. I don't think we should be repealing it in the absence of any sort of significant problem. I think there is a good reason to regulate junkyards in the vicinity of highways. Thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM PRESIDING

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes. Thank you. Mr. President, members, I