

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

February 12, 2003 LB 45

law, to make sure that it is not something that continually comes before a judge repeatedly by individuals to say, you know, here they are again doing this wrong, or, you know, this group is now out to get this group, and you see these things happen. I think if you had a situation where you went through either a local health district or through the department, I think it would add validity to the discussion about what it is that you're enforcing. And so I'm hopeful that we can resolve that, because it is not my intention for us to try and seek and to try and get these people for making their best effort. I think a majority of the people, I think an overwhelming majority of the people are in compliance with the laws that we see on the books. I think a majority of them would be in compliance with any new bills that we put out, or any new provisions that are specifically covered under the rules and regulations. Again, the concern that I share with Senator Bourne is, is how exactly do we go about making sure that there is a proper procedure in place without subjecting honest citizens in private business, who are trying to make a living and trying to comply with the law, into criminals just because somebody doesn't like them or because of a vagueness of a law. So I think the most we can do to tighten this up would be a huge benefit. Thank you.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator. The next light is Senator Cunningham's. Senator Cunningham waives. Senator Thompson, you're recognized to speak.

SENATOR THOMPSON: Thank you, Madam President and members of the body. We're working on the issue of how this should be phrased, but we can't do it this quickly. And committee counsel is going to work with us, and also counsel of Judiciary Committee, to see if this is appropriate to take out "any affected party". We just ask that you support this committee amendment, which reduces the bill to just this section only. Then you'll have an opportunity to vote on the entire bill. But we're going to...my concern is to allow the department and local health departments to enforce the law. That doesn't seem to be a problem. However, not...we need to spend some more time on how this law would be different from other laws that are written. It would be extremely rare for someone to go this route, if we leave it in. But we're not sure that's appropriate. So you will have