

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

February 18, 2003 LB 52

FA1161.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President and members of the Legislature, on the chance that this amendment might fly, it should be drafted correctly. I have no way of knowing when an amendment is going to be adopted, when a bill is going to pass, when either the bill or the amendment or both are controversial. It makes me think of that tale of the sower who went out to sow seeds. And some fell on rocky ground, some fell on thorny ground, and Senator Aguilar, some fell on good ground. The seeds that fell on the rocky ground sprang up immediately, because the covering of earth was thin. And although the plants could not take root, they sprang up quickly. But the very absence of sufficient earth to allow them to take root caused them not to survive very long, so they perished. The seeds that fell among the thorns produced plants that grew. But the thorns were too powerful and they choked the life out of the new plants. They did not survive. The seed that fell on the good ground grew, flourished, multiplied, produced a good crop. This is a tale that was told by Jesus. And people who followed him and listened to him knew he liked to tell little stories. They were called parables in those days. What is a "pair o' bulls?" Two animals of the bovine family which are male. So parables were always trotted out, because they created a lot of noise, they shook the ground, raised dust, and people paid attention. So when you had a story that you wanted people to listen to, a group of stories, you called them "pair o' bulls." And that was corrupted to "parables." And people don't even know the origin of the word, but now they do. They never understood, all of these people, what Jesus was getting at, but they knew he was getting at something, because he always had something else. His stories were like the scorpion. You get past the claws, then you get to the body, but the real sting was in the tail. So what comes last when Jesus was talking was the part that had the sting. So he said, the rocky ground is a representation of those people who have a whole lot of things on their mind, but they're very shallow, superficial, and don't grasp any of them really. So any new idea that comes along, they reach out, grab it, and run with it. He was describing Americans in the year 2003 and years backward from then. Always some new thing, grabbing it before the old which is being turned loose was not