

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

February 21, 2003 LB 250, 273

Initial. Have you all voted who care to? Have you all voted who care to? Have you all voted? Record please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of LB 250.

SENATOR CUDABACK: LB 250 does advance. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: LB 273 is a bill by Senator Chambers. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 13 of this year, at that time referred to the Agriculture Committee, advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Chambers, you're recognized to open on advancement of LB 273.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, because the committee amendment becomes the bill, I'm going to discuss the committee amendment, and you will know what the bill is about. We stripped out everything in the original bill, and adopted a committee amendment. I have dealt with the commercial breeders, and the part of the original bill that they objected to would be found on page 2, in lines 20 and 21. Quote, a commercial breeder shall not primarily house a dog or cat on wire flooring. That language has been stripped out, and the language I substituted was agreed to by the commercial breeders. Before I go into the specifics of the bill, I want to tell why I'm taking this approach. There are numerous rules and regulations that have been adopted by the Department of Agriculture based on federal guidelines and requirements. Nobody is likely to read all of those regulations, and could readily, through inadvertence, violate one or some of them. What I wanted to do with this bill is to take the significant or most important requirements from those regulations, put them in statute, so anybody who is going to become a professional breeder or commercial breeder could go to the statute and know basically what is required of a person in that activity. If all of these requirements are complied with, and incidentally one of those regulations of the Ag Department should be violated, before the hammer is dropped on that person for violating one of those regulations, he or she could present these main