

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

February 25, 2003 LB 216

SPEAKER BROMM: The motion is withdrawn. Next item on the bill, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Chambers would move to return the bill. (FA1182, Legislative Journal page 656.)

SPEAKER BROMM: Senator Chambers, you're recognized on your motion.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, if I thought you all were up on popular music, and if I could sing, I would do a few words from Fats Domino. "Yes it's me and I'm in love again." But not in the way people might think. This is the Chambers rider that I want to add to this bill. On page...and it's on your gadget. On page 4, line 9, after "director", we would insert these words, "proof that it does not discriminate in employment based on sexual orientation"; and strike "or" in that line and insert the word "and". Which would mean that every person who's selling insurance...you all have to excuse me. I've got a sniffle in one nostril. I usually don't blow my nose in public, but I don't have any choice. And I'm not going to dribble on me, and I'm not going to spray Senator Stuthman. So excuse me please. (Laugh) You ought to hear the grief I'm being given over here in the culture corner. But anyway. This is the way the language would read if you adopt my amendment. "Every insurance company holding a certificate of authority to transact the business of insurance in this state shall file with the director proof that it does not discriminate in employment based on sexual orientation and". You add the new language that is being proposed in the bill. I don't know whether the body will listen to me any more than it listened to Senator Beutler. But this is an issue that I promised to raise again and again and again. And I'm going to do it. I picked this bill so that you all will see how many types of bills and how many opportunities will be presented for me to offer this rider. It would be much better to help me get my bill out on this floor, my bill which is designed to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation. Then we could join that issue on a bill, discuss that bill, and whether or not it's a policy that the state should adopt, which I think it is. Many people may think it's not. But we would discuss it on that bill. If, on