

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

March 3, 2003            LB 54

adopted?    All in favor of the motion vote aye, opposed nay.  
Voting on adoption of the Jensen amendment, FA1186, to LB 54.  
Have you all voted?    Record please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK:    27 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of  
Senator Jensen's amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK:    The Jensen amendment is adopted.    Mr. Clerk,  
next item to the bill.

CLERK:    Mr. President, Senator Chambers would move to amend,  
FA1187.    (Legislative Journal page 706.)

SENATOR CUDABACK:    Senator Chambers to open on FA1187 to LB 54.

SENATOR CHAMBERS:    Thank you.    Mr. President and members of the  
Legislature, I would go to the Raikes amendment where he is  
defining "relative."    My amendment would add the words "without  
regard to sexual orientation."    I'm going to read the definition  
of "relative" with my amendment attached:    "Relative means any  
person related to another by blood or marriage to the third  
degree of consanguinity, including a stepparent and stepchild  
and an adoptive parent and his or her adopted child without  
regard to sexual orientation."    I do not want people excluded  
from the definition of "relative" because of their sexual  
orientation when every other requirement contained in the  
definition is met.    The only way such a person could legally be  
married is if the spouse is a member of the opposite sex.    This  
amendment is not a stratagem to try to legalize homosexual or  
same-sex marriage.    That could not be done under the existing  
constitution anyway.    We're not defining "marriage" here.    We're  
not defining "blood relationship" here.    We are stating  
something about blood.    But when you are defining "relative,"  
you're talking about something other than marriage, something  
other than blood.    Marriage could be other than blood; blood  
could be other than marriage.    So when you talk about one or the  
other, you're talking about something other, obviously.    Since  
we are defining "relative," I do not want to exclude an entire  
segment of the population perhaps related to the child or person  
in question by blood, perhaps related by marriage.    The sexual  
orientation of an individual should not come into play to