

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

March 19, 2003 LB 608

see a big conglomerate come in and take their business away from them. I know where and how many of those dollars are going to those businesses. That's what I want to know. We don't want to use that in a way that would be detrimental to those organizations. But if that information is provided now to one branch of our government, why shouldn't this body know? That is why we are here, to know what's happening with economic growth in this state. And why shouldn't we know? That's all we're asking. So we don't have to jump through a bunch of hoops to find out. I think you should take careful consideration on Senator Brashear's amendment to the committee amendments. There was a lot of time put into these committee amendments. And we weren't out to get anybody. We want those companies to come to this state. But by George, I believe it should be up to us to know what the financial position...well, especially in the financial crisis we're in today. I'm not saying that that brought it...that LB 775 brought that along. Heavens, no. I wouldn't say that, because one of the cities that I represent have a...quite a number of LB 775 projects. And we appreciate that. But why do we have to have such secrecy? With that, I'd give the rest of my time to Senator Landis.

SPEAKER BROMM: Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature,...

SPEAKER BROMM: You have one minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: (Laugh) Actually, I think we're ready to vote on this. I think we should probably move on and do that. What we do with these computer models is to learn about our economic climate, to help us with our revenue forecasts, to evaluate where investment could be most beneficial. The outputs of our computer programs are essentially...certainly the stuff that we release to the public is all cumulative, and not project-specific. However, the body is going to do what it's going to do. If you didn't like the committee's provision of the TRAIN, we would be better off simply defeating AM0879 and then defeating the committee amendment, and doing nothing. Doing nothing is preferable to AM0879. I doubt if we'll do that. My guess is that we'll do what the business community