

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

March 31, 2003 LB 626

try to do some amending of those. And I just think this might be cleaner if we do it this way and then come back on Select File with a revised amendment for you to look at and approve. So with that, Mr. President, I return the rest of my time to the Chair.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schimek. You've heard the opening on committee amendments. Mr. Clerk, there is a amendment to the committee amendments, as stated.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Preister would move to amend the committee amendments, AM1078. (Legislative Journal page 1106.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Preister to open.

SENATOR PREISTER: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the body, I, too, as Senator Schimek does, appreciate your attention on a Monday morning. To get into a difficult and not always easily understood issue is something that I appreciate you doing. I also do appreciate all the different committees, the committee staffs, and the individual senators that have been working on this issue, particularly the last couple of years, and the interim studies and the time that's gone into it. What we are doing now is to discount some of the work, but not totally, that a lot of people have put into this. And so I'm going to be withdrawing these two amendments that I have up, and that will allow us to get to the vote on the committee amendment. I think we have some good things in the committee amendment. We had worked to address some of the concerns of the administration in putting that language together from the bill to the amendment. The Government Committee worked on it further, and we made changes as we went. The administration worked in good faith. And Lori McClurg and Lauren Hill also worked well. But in that process, we had some things that, because of the way the process ended up working out, we didn't come to agreement. Rather than taking the body's time up now and trying to address amendment after amendment, getting people confused or disassociated with the process, we agreed this morning that it would be best to withdraw the amendments that I have filed; if anyone else was going to file amendments, withdraw those amendments. We then get to the committee