

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

April 1, 2003            LB 265

how are they going to know that? These are, in my area, and maybe not in some of the bigger cities, but we have a lot of volunteer EMS personnel, a lot of volunteer firefighters, and this puts them in quite a position of having to make that determination. And to get to Senator Chambers' amendment, at least it would improve the bill if you have the State Patrol or somebody requiring some consistency and training on this. Now that's going to keep people from being EMS and firefighters because my people in my district that I... have sent me information on this who manage these areas say that's going to take a lot of extra time and a lot of extra resources. And I can tell you in Appropriations we just cut...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR THOMPSON: ...training money to the Fire Marshal's Office.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Thompson. Senator Raikes, followed by Senators Schimek, Chambers, Landis, and Mines. Senator Raikes.

SENATOR RAIKES: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I'd like to offer a few comments on this. And part of it, I think, is in response to Senator Foley's comments. I won't be... I won't admit to being as unbiased, sort of, going into this as I think he was suggesting he is. But nonetheless, my question regards the discussion we've had so far. And it is along the lines of, why is it good policy to do this? And my attempt to discern the reasons that have been expressed by proponents I'll categorize as four different items. Number one, concealed carry of handguns will reduce crime. Number two, it's a person's right to carry a concealed handgun. Number three, concealed carry of handguns is more civilized. Four, 43... or, I'm not good with numbers, maybe it's 59 other states have concealed carry, and none of them have had any problem. Well, let me comment on these in reverse order. First, the 43 other states with no problems. And I have to tell you that I'm not top... on top of this factually. I haven't done an investigation of other states to find out what problems did or did not exist. But let's suppose that is true, that you've got 43 other states and none