

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

April 1, 2003 LB 265

SENATOR TYSON: ...safety. Thank you, Senator Cudaback.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Tyson. Senator Schimek, followed by Senator Erdman and ten others.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, Mr. President, thank you. And thank you, members of the body. I rise for a couple of purposes and one is to get back to this whole thing about law enforcement and their opposition to the bill. And I might mention to you, as I rifled through...oh, (laugh) that's not a very good...as I've gone through the contents of some of my former files from former years, I saw mention in one place from one constituent that there had been at least eight public hearings on this issue and that particular constituent wrote me several years back. So the point I'm trying to make here is that there have been a number of public hearings on the issue. There have been a number of attempts to send the bill to the floor and to pass this bill. And the reason I mention that is because I think, and I'm maybe reading between the lines and maybe I am not accurate but I suspect that I am, maybe this year law enforcement, who has always traditionally, consistently been opposed to this kind of a public policy, maybe they saw this bill was going to get out of the Judiciary Committee and maybe they felt that they needed to try to improve the bill as best they could. I don't know, but there is still law enforcement opposed even to this improved version and I don't think that we ought to kid ourselves that they are not going to be in a different kind of position trying to enforce the law if there is more concealed carry out there. Having said that, I'd like to, if I might, get a little humorous for a change. I think we've all been on this issue for awhile and I think that we're all probably getting tired of it, but I go back to a newspaper column that Senator Dwite Pedersen sent out, oh, this was several years back because the date of the column by Mike Ryoko of the Chicago Trib was actually written in January of 1985, and it is tongue in cheek, but it is kind of funny. He actually every year provided a gun owner of the year