

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

April 25, 2003 LB 305, 332

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members. I looked back, and Senator Erdman was watching me, I think, to see what I was going to do here. As you recall, about a week or so ago, we had another bill that...I think it was LB 305...that at Final Reading there was a significant amendment placed on that, in my opinion. And I had said at the time that I was opposed to cutting off debate on an arguably noncontroversial issue. And I think Senator Erdman had indicated, or articulated, that there were no dissenting votes coming out of committee, and there was no opposition even during the hearings. Well, in this situation, we have several no votes on the committee, or one no vote and one not voting, and there were opponents to the bill. And so from my perspective, in order to be consistent, I'm going to oppose Senator Beutler's motion to return this to Select File for this amendment. Again, it's...I'm not even familiar with the issues contained in the amendment. However, Senator Erdman said it had something to do with his bill last time. And I just want to indicate and show to him that it does not, that it's simply part of the process. I believe that all bills deserve to be heard throughout the course of the debate, at all three levels. And that goes for bills that have opposition, and bills that don't. This one has that opposition. It did not come out of committee unanimously. And just simply as a process objection, I'm going to vote no on Senator Beutler's motion to return to Select. I'll vote no on the motion...or, the amendment itself. And if it's adopted, I'll vote no on the bill as well. Thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Bourne. Senator Baker.

SENATOR BAKER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature. I rise in support of Senator Beutler's motion to return to Select File, because honestly this...in our case, it would really help our situation, where we're along a state border. And as I said in my previous statement, from time to time our volunteer firemen, who are covered by workmen's comp, and our ambulance drivers, in fact, we go to...down into Kansas occasionally, on calls down there. And from time to time, we have had injuries to firemen. And it's a question of whose jurisdiction is going to cover these workmen comp claims, and where they're going to be filed. So I think the amendment is a