

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

May 7, 2003

LB 287

around us do tax repairs on automobiles, et cetera, et cetera. So some of these, they don't bother me as much as it does others. I drive...Ernie...or, Senator Chambers talked about driving old cars. I have a car that has 168,000 miles on it. And, Ernie, I love that car. I hope I can get 400,000, like you did. But it's in the repair shop right now, in fact. (Laugh) But anyhow, so it's a matter...as far as old cars, old cars serve a purpose. And...but old cars, of course, when you pay for your license fee, you don't pay hardly anything. So you make it up for one place or the other. So I'm not going to argue the point on this particular amendment. But the thing is, I do think we should be looking at some other things. And this particular, just on accountants and attorneys, I think would probably bring in...I don't know how much. I think Senator Aguilar has a bill. But as far as you taking all those, architectural, legal, and accounting services, and engineering, you're talking about \$50 million or so. So if that's perhaps half of that, I don't know. But as far as Senator Jensen mentioned, as far as remodeling costs and so forth, that does pick on the average homeowner that's trying to improve their homes. And then, of course, like he said, it not only costs you...you have to pay sales tax on the labor, et cetera, but you also then...the improvements on your home and then your taxes go up. So it's just something we should really, really consider. I turn the rest of my time back to the Chair.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Engel. (Visitors introduced.) Senator Wehrbein on the Preister amendment to LB 287.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Thank you, Mr. President, members. I'm not going to speak directly on this particular amendment either. I just did some quick research here, and I just want to remind the body, those that are talking...and this is, I guess, primarily directed to those that have felt we haven't cut enough. We will be taking up the budget next week. And so if you want to get some amendments filed, I'd urge you to do it today or tomorrow. Talk to Fiscal Office if you're unsure of where the cuts would be or how you want to make them. Get them filed before you go home for the weekend, if you can, so that they'll be on the record. And we will probably take them up, I'm guessing,