

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

May 7, 2003

LB 283

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: One of them I'm dealing with now, and I know these alcoholic beverages take different form: beer, wine, spirits as they call it. But they all are alcohol. Fortunes are built selling it. Fortunes are lost consuming it. Revenue can be raised by taxing it, and that's what I think we ought to do. And this is the bill that will allow us to do that. And my job is to attempt to bring that about, and that's what I'm going to do. This amendment that I'm offering here would strike the emergency clause. The purpose of the emergency clause, in connection with this bill, is to make effective this July 1, 2003 date.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: You've heard the opening on the motion to reconsider the vote taken on FA1351. Senator Chambers, your light is next to speak.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President;. As I was saying, this bill, as drafted, has an effective date, or operative date, of July 1, 2003. Because bills take effect 90 days after we leave session, there's no way this operative date can have any effect unless this bill is adopted with the emergency clause. That means it will take effect when passed and approved, according to law. That will occur well before July 1, obviously, so when July 1 rolls around, these taxes will take effect and the money will come rolling in; or, I should say, trickling or dribbling and drabbling in. I want to make it crystal clear what my intentions are so when we get to Senator Brashear's bill nobody is blindsided. Those who are having meetings about what we will do as to the shortfall should realize that their meetings are for naught because nothing is going to be done. Even if I do not work my magic, there are enough factions in this Legislature to prevent any bill that would generate enough revenue to fill the shortfall to get 30 votes. No bill would do that. There is no combination of