

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

May 7, 2003

LB 598

here. But I wanted to mention something I don't think has been mentioned before, that out of the 20 senators that's going to be termed out, we got 14 standing committees here, and 14...and nine of them...anyway, out of that bunch, there's nine of them that's going to be turned out, out of the 14. And so to be a chair of a committee, I feel that a person needs to be down here in the body at least four to six years before he runs for a chair. And if that's the case, well, they'll just be able to get a chair for maybe two years, and they'd be gone again. So this is really important that we can get this back on the ballot and try to figure out how to talk to people into having a reconsideration vote of what they did before. But again, I'm supporting this constitutional amendment, and I hope we can move it forward. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Jones. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, thank you, Mr. President. And to follow up on what Senator Jones was saying, about a year and a half ago, I was at a meeting in which there was a presentation on behalf of the California legislature about their energy crisis out there. I think you all remember that, probably. They had a really bad, bad situation. And the chair of the energy committee came to talk to us about that crisis. The interesting thing about the chair of the energy committee was, not only was she a brand new chair, but she had never even served on the committee before. And she was supposed to handle the energy crisis for the state of California, basically. I don't think we can even imagine the kind of scenarios that could occur with term limits. And I don't intend to draw out my comments any more. But I would like to ask Senator Engel a question or two, if I might, Senator Engel.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Engel, would you respond?

SENATOR ENGEL: Certainly.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Senator Engel, all I want to ask is, how do you envision doing this bill? If we would advance this bill today, which I hope we do, would we then go ahead and deal with it on Select and Final this year? Or would we wait until next