

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

May 20, 2003

LB 407

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Schimek. The motion is withdrawn. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, I have a second motion. Senator Chambers would move to return the bill for purposes of striking the enacting clause. (FA1384, Legislative Journal page 1945.)

SPEAKER BROMM: Senator Chambers, you're recognized to open on your motion.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I'm glad to hear that Senator Schimek is going to vote for this bill. I'm going to vote for it. There are things in this bill I do not like. There are things in a revenue bill I do not like. This is a time when the Legislature must assert leadership and do that which is in the best interest of the state. I have swallowed a lot of issues on this bill and the revenue bill which in times past I would not have tolerated. We would be arguing this day on those issues had I not determined some time ago, even before I shared it with my colleagues, that this is a unique session and things are going to have to be done that have never been done by the Legislature before. The Governor has postured. He has done like the typical schoolyard bully. He has kicked up dust. He has taken his thumb and licked it and rubbed it past his nose and raised his little fist and shaken his little spider-like arms and told the Legislature what he's going to do to us if we dare discharge our duty as we should. Well, let him do that. This is why, brothers and sisters, this government has three heads, so that that tension between and among the various branches will always be there, will always lead to conflict, discussion, criticisms, and disagreements so that when all of it has been said and done, when the dust settles, when the bully who kicked sand in the face of the 98-pound weakling on the beach has gotten his comeuppance, because that 98-pound weakling took the Charles Atlas dynamic tension course and became a muscular hero himself and vanquished the bully, when all of that dust has settled, the state is going to roll on. The republic may quiver and shake a bit, but it's going to survive. And a year from now things that gave so much heartburn, agony, and bad nights of the kind that Senator Schimek and perhaps others suffered will be so dim in