

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

May 27, 2003

LB 407

proud of what this Legislature has done this session. And if it should all go up in smoke, which I don't think it will, I would still be proud, because of the tremendous effort that has been put forth, the compromising, the consideration for not only each other, but the time that it takes to do these things. I think the process that you have exhibited has been commendable. I support the override, and I will support the next two, certainly not because I'm wild about what we're doing. But I think what we're doing is a prudent thing to do. It may not be politically popular, but it's prudent and it's the right thing to do with responsibilities that lie before us. And to have to ask 30 or more of us to do this is certainly heavy lifting. And I'm reminded of a story that one of our esteemed colleagues told me once. And it probably wasn't on the floor. It was probably sometime when we were sitting around talking about what had happened. And I will give him credit for the story when I'm done with it. But he told me about a house that had to be moved, and there was no feasible way to move it. It was very heavy and very large, and no way to get a machine in to move it. And the house owner had a son who had gone to school in Kansas to become an architect. And he came home on a break, and he told his dad, he said, I think we can move that house. And his dad said, well, how are we going to do that? He said, well, first of all, we've got to build a frame around the house, so that there are handles around the entire house. And he said, then we got to get...oh, he said, I figure maybe 70, maybe 80 of our neighbors and our friends. And he said, I've calculated the pounds and the weight of the house, and if we get at least 70 people who can lift 70 pounds, he said, and the handles are placed properly, we can move the house. So they built the frame, and they found the 70 people or more. I think he said they actually wound up with many more than that. Many came just for curiosity. They couldn't believe this could be done. But they got the frame built, they all took a hold, and they actually lifted the house off of its foundation. They only had to move it a few feet to the new foundation, and they did it. And I think...I thought of that story when we started getting into some of the very, very difficult decisions that we knew we could not do with 20 people or 25 people. It became obvious we had to have 30 or...