

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

January 13, 2004 LR 4

a baby unless you have a license for it, and she's going to apply to be the licensing agent to determine who can have babies in this state. So I think that ought to be in the constitution too. I thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Kruse. Senator Schrock, followed by Senators Beutler, Dwite Pedersen, Senator Chambers, and Senator Combs.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Mr. President, I'll be brief. One of the nice things about this constitutional amendment is that it is brief. It is to the point. Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness is part of our constitution, and I happen to think it's appropriate that fishing, trapping, and hunting should also be preserved. I can tell you a lot of people in this state live for the weekend when they can go hunting and they can go fishing, and to protect that I think is important. You can argue about whether it should be in the constitution or should not be in the constitution, but one of the reasons they want it to be in the constitution is so it can't be easily changed. It can't be messed with. They don't want the Legislature messing with it, and they don't want other people messing with it. We have a strong voice in this state now, the hunters, the fishermen and the people who take part in these activities. We want to keep it that way. As we get further away from an agrarian society, why, people understand less what we do unless you're out there dealing with these issues day to day. I know, as a farmer, I deal a lot with pest control and, to me, I don't want anybody from...telling me how I'm going to have to regulate some of the...how I'm going to have to deal with some of these issues. I pointed out some things this morning that take place on our farm that a city person probably wouldn't imagine. So with that, Senator Kruse, I appreciate what you said. And the fact of the matter is, this does have broad-based support out there. So with that, I'm not going to take much of your time. Senator Chambers, I wished I could change your mind. I don't think that's possible, but I will...I will let you continue and I will continue. So with that, thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schrock. Senator Beutler, on the Chambers amendment.