

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

January 14, 2004 LB 270

say that we need to move everything along and I'm always going to vote cloture on every single thing and then not take time down the road, or vice versa. I'm not going to stand up here and say, let's move along, and then not vote for cloture votes down the road when we're probably going to have several. I mean that's...that's already been the statement made this session, and we can move along. We can adopt this compromise and accommodate some folks and get moving, and I hope we can do that. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Smith. Senator Erdman, on the Foley amendment.

SENATOR ERDMAN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I rise to hope that Senator Bourne has calmed down a little bit. The reality of the process is, the process is there are rules, and if any of you have seen a recent movie, those are kind of suggestions at times here. And I know that in the past those who have claimed that what is going on here is contravening the process have been a part of those who were contravening the process. The reality is, is that we have an opportunity to look at this law. If we decide that Senator Foley's amendment should not be adopted, so be it. The reality, though, that I think of what we're being asked to undertake from Senator Foley, at part, I think we should look at with full faith, and that is Senator Foley passed legislation that is constitutionally intact, that provides for the recognition of certain penalties in the event that you commit a crime against another. We are now being asked by the Judiciary Committee, with the exception of Senator Foley, to reinstitute a law, essentially create this law that would be intact that would prosecute other crimes for the reason of hate, on down the road how the description is in the bill. So I enjoy the...I enjoy the interesting comments or objections that are made, but I'm, you know, seriously, if we're willing to do this, then we should do it on everything, not whether or not we're going to give \$300,000 to Omaha. I think it was laudable last session to do that, because I think we had an obligation as a state to respond in that situation, to be able to hold funds from the federal government that will be coming but a stopgap. I think Senator Chambers did what he had to do for his constituents in that