

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

February 11, 2004 LB 279

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Now wait a minute. I'm saying it, not you. And it's easy. They want to get out some work. But here is the question that I want to put to Senator Wehrbein. Did they present to you the idea of a penalty of any kind, or did you float that idea and then they reacted in terms of where they would like the fine to be...or the increase or penalty to be placed?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Well, I was after the increase in penalty as a way to increase registrations to offset the loss of registration money that I saw coming.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And you are the one who generated that idea. That's what I want the record...

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...to display. No county people saw the need to do that. Isn't that true?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: That's the way...yes, that's the way I see it.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Members of the Legislature, Senator Wehrbein is a compassionate, loving, lenient, tolerant individual, and he's saving some people from themselves. But the people being saved from themselves have a responsibility to be more attentive to their duties, to be aware of the consequences of those things they support. They knew that extending the life span of these plates would result in some loss of revenue; not, in my opinion, a significant amount of money in the sense of skewing their budgets. Since they didn't see the need to do this, I don't want the Legislature on its own motion to put a tax on a tax. Therefore, I have offered this motion of mine to return this bill to the Transportation Committee. If my motion is not successful, then I'm just going to have...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.