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FLOOR DEBATE

February 26, 2004 LB 16

litigation were to arise involving that particular law firm, it would be unclear whether the firm and its members had limited liability, as a legal matter, or joint and severable liability due to the failure of the firm to correctly or duly register under the law. LB 16 avoids this problem by requiring, under our statutes relating to the registration of business entities, that any business entity engaged in the practice of law must include a certificate of authority from the court as a condition precedent when it registers with the Secretary of State as a limited liability entity. I introduced an identical version of this bill in 2002. It was denominated LB 1016. That bill was advanced unanimously by the Banking Committee, but there was not enough time in that session for the body to consider the bill. I urge the advancement of LB 16 to Select File. I thank you.

PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: Thank you, Senator Brashear. Chair recognizes Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, what I'm going to say is in the nature of an announcement. First of all, I support Senator Brashear's bill. I'm not going to take enough time to delay his bill from getting a vote, but because of the way consent calendar works, even if the time ran out, a vote would be taken. Yesterday I made remarks about what I would intend to do if cloture was voted. The body voted for cloture. I said I was going to start dealing with every bill. I'm a man of my word. I called the Speaker and told him that all bets were off on consent calendar; that I was going to start on the consent calendar to deliver on the promise I made, so that my colleagues would not feel that I'm a man who goes back on his word. Well, here's where the tie-up came. And to let you know what might be good news to some of you, I'm not going to mess with consent calendar today as far as delaying it. But the Speaker pointed out that...or we were discussing it, there would not have been a consent calendar had I not agreed to leave it alone. Having made that agreement, and the Speaker a couple of days ago even put out a consent calendar agenda, I could not go back on that agreement. So I'm bound by that. But all the bills on General File are open to my process and I'm going to deliver on my promise. I had said that I have every bill that's on Select File. This sheaf of bills in my hand represents every