

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

March 4, 2004

LR 209

can survive without going to State...I've been to the State Fair for 50 years, if I'm that old. I've been to the State Fair for years, and years. I hitchhiked one time. I was in the service, in the Air Force. I hitchhiked 700 miles when I was 19 1/2 years old to get to the State Fair. I rode in a car. I rode with a drunk in a '54 Ford. I rode in a cattle truck. And this drunk said, where are you going? I am going to a fair, and he just laughed. You know, hitchhiking to a fair. He said, and he was willing to give me a ride, and if it meant that much to me, and he laughed and laughed. And I got in the cattle truck, it's a long story, but I did make it. Only for a few hours, I had to go back to Wichita Falls. I had a three-day pass. I was only supposed to be 100 miles from the base. I was 700 miles from the base. Why did I do it? I like fairs. Getting down to the point, a fair is one place, the fair is one place where we can all go. The fair is a place where we can all go. You got 5, 10, 15 dollars, whatever, you can go there and have a good time. You don't have to spend \$100 for the rides. You don't have to do that. It's a place where...when I was a child I wasn't wealthy. I am not wealthy now. I'm not implying that I am wealthy now, but I didn't have any money. It's a place where your folks could send you and have a good time with no money. I don't care who you were. The fat cats go there, I am sorry, I apologize, the people with money go there and they don't want to dress up. They don't want to have their suits and ties on. They want to dress down. That's a place where we can all go. I don't care if you have jeans on, if you have a hole in your pants, you have one shirt to your name, one shirt to your name. You can all go there and have a good time. You don't need a lot of money. You see all kinds of people there and I go for three days in a row, all kinds of people. You know, you're laughing at me probably, but all kinds of people. Even you, my friend, Senator Friend can go. I like to use that, my friend in this, but, anyway, anybody can go to the fair. Don't need any money. What other place can you say that? What other place can you say that? It costs more than that to go to a movie nowadays than to go to the State Fair. You can go there and watch the rides. You can go there and watch the advertisements. You can go there, in younger days you had other things you could see there, but I...the older I get the less it attracts me. I have something else to do there. I want to watch the tractors now,