

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

March 10, 2004 LB 599

to be an unconstitutional delegation of legislative authority. The court is not going to be bound by how we characterize what it is we're doing. It will look at the impact of it. And we cannot...wait, when I say we cannot, I meant we can write anything we want to, but it would be like setting out intent language and then putting in the operative language powers that erase what the intent language suggested was the purpose. There is nothing whatsoever in this bill that we're looking at which suggests that it is carrying out that intent language and is necessary for the safety, health and welfare of the public as it is to be protected by this board and what it does. We've just given them carte blanche with this language to do with these exemptions whatever they want to without being guided by anything. That language you read does not put any restriction on this language that they're adopting here.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Not in its present form. And there is a curious disconnect between purposes and these exemptions in that, for example, Senator, one exemption exempts out detached single-family through four-family dwellings less than 5,000 square feet. Well, that's almost all single-family housing. And how...how is that category less subject to being safeguarded for life, health, and property, and public welfare reasons? Why is that less subject to being regulated than more expensive homes or other properties?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: In my view, it should not be. So that's what I meant. Sometimes, if you look at the language, you will see that what's being granted...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...in this language goes contrary to the stated purpose of the overall act itself, in my view.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Thank you. Senator Schimek, thank you for the time. I'm really having a hard time figuring out what anybody gets out of this bill because, in the end, the decision is still in the board. Under any of these provisions, the decision is still in the board, and the board is free to retain all of the statutory language just exactly as it is. So perhaps...perhaps