

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

March 17, 2004 LB 962A

stumbling and fumbling, ah...well,...ah...um...ah, and then read, and that is me? I'm not boastful but I know I'm much better than that. And I'm not too happy when people want to compare themselves to me. The reason I use the word "to" rather than "with," if you compare one thing with another, then that means there is some kind of parity or basis for comparison. When you say compare to, then that word "to" means you're dealing more with a contrast, with a contrast. So they cannot compare themselves to me. They cannot compare themselves with me. So I just want to tell you all, consider the source of a threat. I make promises, not threats. Other people watch the way senators react to me. But here's another difference between me and these Johnny-come-latelies and would-be Ernie Chamberses. I will help my colleagues with their legislation. I know enough about their legislation to take them a step beyond what they know enough to do. I have made myself indispensable. People need me. To give one of...an example I gave to one of my colleagues this morning, I'm like one of those prosthetic devices that nobody wants. They'd like to throw it away but they can't because there are too many times they need to lean on it and rely on it. So I'm that prosthesis. They need me. Why can I say that? Because I speak truth and I don't want anybody to be misled by somebody trying to trade on my name and my reputation. You take my name from me and you leave me poor, indeed. Steal my little purse and you get but trash. So before people start trying to compare themselves to me and saying that they're going to get a higher office, they need to check themselves, review the entire situation, consider how they deal with the other senators all session. Even Senator Maxwell got his long column in the paper, but Senator Maxwell was careful to say he's not criticizing me because he couldn't criticize me. I'm more of a stickler in obeying the...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...rules than anybody on the floor of the Legislature. I'm using this bill as the opportunity to say these things because it's not a bill that I intend to try to keep from moving. But the fact that no viable funding mechanism has been agreed to by any of the contending forces puts this bill in jeopardy. And I will not support a bill that has no