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FLOOR DEBATE

March 24, 2004      LB 888, 916, 962, 1046, 1049, 1083

the hourglass over and let the sands begin to fall. You all don't have to look at your watches anymore. Your watches are too finely nuanced. In a few days, as I stated, I will unfurl a calendar. We're playing hardball now. Spring training is over. Gym sparring--and Senator "Mel" and I were kind of looking at each other the other day. And you may understand why I use that designation before the session is over, but I'm not going to tell you today. Now it's time for the real thing. There is nothing on the agenda, nothing, that is of that much concern to me. For the budget, we can come back for a special session. LB 1083, if the Governor is serious, that can be put on the agenda for a special session also. The water bill, LB 962, we don't really need that. LB 916, the livestock waste bill, we don't need. LB 1046, I can't wait. But that is something we will spend a lot of time on. The one bill, as I've stated, that I really don't have bad intentions on, is LB 888. I think that's a good bill. I think it is benign, it is helpful, and it will do something that needs to be done. But that doesn't even have to pass this time. So when Senator Doug Kristensen comes running around to you all and wants to put you in his pocket, if he's put you there, you need to go tell him, hey, I'm not a pocket person, take me out of your pocket. Or stay in his pocket and test me. You notice that only every now and then will I say something about the bill. Why is that? Because he can't accept any amendment. And I want to stop the bill. I can't get you all to vote to kill it, although at some point I'll offer a motion of that kind, perhaps. But it's going to take some bludgeoning and some softening. Here's what happens when you gamble. It could work to my benefit; it could work to my detriment. What I may do, in bludgeoning our colleagues, Senator Cunningham, is to push them right into your camp, and they'll get so irritated with me they'll vote cloture. Then they'll have 12 days to regret it, because I'll get you again on Final Reading, and I shall. If this bill were reasonable, that would be one thing.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: This is not a fair bill. All that Senator Cunningham is interested in doing is making points with the business community. He doesn't know what it means to be a