

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

April 7, 2004            LB 1090

of lottery funds forever without a condition attached, without a business plan, without anything to indicate the fair can survive. And as a matter of fact, at the very time you all are voting to put that into the constitution, the fair is continuing to deteriorate. More chaos is introduced, and inability to function is before us, and yet the guarantee, the 10 percent of the lottery money. Why do you put conditions on anything? And then while you contaminate the constitution,...

SPEAKER BROMM: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...you throw all principles related to sound fiscal management out the window. We even have a person who works for a bank going for it because he had a dream about the fair going to Columbus, Ohio, so he voted for this. And I bet they'd fire him if he tried to use such a slipshod, irrational approach in his job. I don't even know what Senator Friend does but he works for a bank, I read. There have been disparaging comments made about the constitution, and when I'm recognized, I'm going to address that also. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President, members...Mr. Speaker, I'm sorry. As we are approaching these budget issues on final round and as we did advance the proposal on the State Fair, I think the key word here is "priorities." And we've heard that before. What are our priorities? I voted no on the last bill because I think that we are moving to next year a situation that's pretty difficult to deal with. I voted against the State Fair, I guess as the press would call it, the "bailout," whatever you want to call it. It's special consideration. And that's fine, that's the political will of the body, sobeit. But Senator Chambers wants to draw the picture of one of us or several of us hooking...or hitching to a wagon or whatever. I think it's more like a fiscal hearse, when you think about what we are approaching now, with 4 percent revenue growth, but still doesn't pay for the budget. And apparently yesterday the priority was established that \$2 million for the State Fair was a good idea. I personally think that we have higher priorities in the state. I understand the challenges, I understand the