

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

April 7, 2004      LR 11

that it was wise for them to try to accomplish this. That's why when you talk about the...I guess the opposition to Senator Smith's position, displaying this idea that we have representatives trying to show leadership and trying to empower people, that that's suddenly just automatically not a piece of the puzzle. I know nobody has expressed that specifically, but I think the implication is there. Senator Chambers has made the implication five times today, if he's made it once, that...and he...and off the record he's said to me that that...that that procedure or the effort that we are promoting is actually abdicating some of our representative authority. I see it totally opposite, in an opposite manner. The Erwin Rommel thing, he can wax on till LeRoy Louden's cows come home, but the fact of the matter is these two generals met on the battlefield several times and we know what the outcome was. One was empowered; one wasn't. The empowered people, the people that were able to use their minds creatively to come to conclusions on the battlefield won the day. Erwin Rommel wasn't; people like General George Smith Patton Jr. were. Now, where do the people in our districts, us as leaders, at least as we've tried to establish, fit into this puzzle? We can go on and on and on, and I'm not going to change anybody's mind. It's to that point I apologize. But I just wanted to add this final piece. If Senator Chambers and others want to go down this road we could be here very late and maybe that, I guess, is the goal. Maybe we need to be. Because I think...I think that they can continue trying to frame this as a certain amount of senators abdicating their authority, and I can continue to stand up and make arguments in the contrary, and I guess what I would say is we're just getting started. I can go find authors names and we can talk about Erwin Rommel all night. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Friend. Senator Erdman, on the motion to return. Senator Erdman.

SENATOR ERDMAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I'm intrigued, I guess, by the...I was a high school quarterback in my senior year in high school. We didn't have a very good line and we generally had the chuck and duck philosophy, and that was you took a couple steps back and threw a pass and hoped your receiver caught it, and ducked so you didn't get killed by the