

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

February 17, 2005 LB 96

is similar to me in this respect. If I become aware that something that I have done or recommended is not merited or warranted by the facts, I will change. I don't have anything to gain by holding a position which I know is flawed or invalid. Senator Thompson has shown that she wants the Legislature to behave in a more rational, deliberative, responsible manner than it has up to this point, and I'm going to do all I can to prevent that from happening. You made your bed; I want you to lie in it. You know so much, you are so smart, you're going to fix Senator Chambers. Well, Senator Chambers wants you to continue in that mode. I want to stay fixed. You know, that's a term they use when they do certain things to pets. Once fixed, they cannot be unfixed. And you know what some cats said, some feral cats, wild cats? They were looking at this dog that was tied...well, he was chained to a post in the middle of a backyard--no shade, no water, just sitting there with his head drooped, his tongue hanging out, panting. And he had been fixed two weeks before. And these two cats were sitting on the fence, and they looked in that yard and they said, thank God we're not man's best friend. That's the way man treats his best friend. The Legislature is not my best friend. The Legislature sins in haste and should repent at leisure. How much is this bill worth? It's worth everything to Senator Janssen, because his name is on it. It's worth everything to the National Guard, because they're going to show you how to whip Senator Chambers. And I'm sure there are other lobbyists out there just pulling for the National Guard. I read history, but I don't have to go all the way back to history. I can read the newspaper and see how people who rely strictly on the strength of numbers and kill power, with no intellectual processes involved, can be brought to a halt by a much smaller, more mobile determined force. So the Legislature may reach a point where they can invoke cloture and get their 33 votes here, and that will be what I would call a Pyrrhic victory. You're going to lose so much in the way of your resources that you're not going to win the war. Now, if you want to, you can try to change the rules in the middle of the session to try to silence me and give me something else to mock you for, to show how inept the Legislature is. Why should the Legislature be brought to a halt on a bill like this, which is not even needed?