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February 23, 2005 LB 7

SENATOR CUDABACK: The amendment is adopted. Back to discussion of the committee amendments themselves, AM0037, offered by the Urban Affairs Committee. Seeing no lights on...I'm sorry, Senator Chambers, your light is on.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: This is on the committee amendment?

SENATOR CUDABACK: It is, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, there's a difference between what is intended that a bill do and what a bill does or actually allows. Senator Erdman and I were looking at this language and we're talking about vehicles, when stopped by traffic control devices or traffic control signals. A device, or even if you want to use...take it to the word "signal," that legitimately, pursuant to law, requires that vehicular traffic come to a stop, would be embraced in this language. Senator Erdman mentioned a situation where there might be some person stopping traffic so children That would qualify, the little paddle can cross the street. that says stop. When the arm comes out on a school bus that says stop, that could qualify and a person could follow school buses and run out there and beg. Now, maybe that would never happen, but we need to look at what is being allowed under this bill. Remember, the state is being asked to get involved in this issue and authorize this activity. The 49 of us are having something presented to us and we are to bring our collective judgment and wisdom to bear on that issue. Then, on behalf of the public at large, whom we represent, we're supposed to exercise our best judgment. If you were addressing a group of citizens, could you tell them that your considered judgment, your most prudent decision, was that the state should authorize cities to pass ordinances to allow people, to authorize people, to approach them when their vehicle is stopped at a traffic light or a stop sign to ask for money? They talk about road rage on television and on the radio. If you were in a hurry to get someplace, you still have to stop when the light is red. The person in front of you has stopped for the red light. person in front of you is very benevolent. One of these people runs out with a bucket, says, put some money in the bucket, and the person in the car in front of you says, I only have large