

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

March 16, 2005      LB 739

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. So if the improbable should happen, and I understand that it's improbable, according to the calculations, and it falls before...below .4,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...is there any factor...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler.      Senator Chambers, on AM0747.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I'm well-aware of the various entities, individuals and groups that sat down to do something on this bill. I'm aware that some people acted in good faith. But just because an individual has labor attached to his name doesn't mean he's in favor of laboring people. Just because the Labor Department has "labor" in front of the word "department," does not mean they have any interest in the problems of laboring people. They got hold of some money that came here like a windfall and, instead of helping make sure this fund was floating, bought some computers. The reason the amount that employers were paying into this fund was reduced was because they said, when times are somewhat better let us not pay as much in. And they knew the chickens would come home to roost, and now that they've come home to roost, they want to take it out of the hide of the workers and say reduce their benefits or put in longer periods of disqualification, and I'm not going to do it. A lot of you all don't read history and you certainly don't see people who call themselves spokespersons for labor standing up and speaking for working people as they need to be spoken for, so you'll see a pale imitation of that from this very other than pale complexioned individual. There was a time when being prolabor meant something. People didn't just let the words come out of their mouth, I'm for the working man or the working woman. Those words carried a notion of commitment and dedication. I don't care how many people got to work on this. They could tell me that Saint Paul and Peter were resurrected and that Jesus came down and presided over it, and the Holy Ghost was sitting there every now and then just doing some ministrations. And