

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

March 22, 2005

LB 739

they've...this is a straitjacket. You heard Senator Cunningham mention that there's consideration given to construction workers. I'm not one for setting one segment of workers against another. Construction is a big business. There...it is a large, powerful union. So if you satisfy them, then all the others who are not members of the construction union, those who may not be a part of any union, are thrown to the wolves, and I'm supposed to accept it because there are people with organized labor who sold these people out. Well, I will not accept it, and I'm going to tell you all something else. I do see other problems with this bill. Since business wants this and you all have been told to cloture me tomorrow, do it this afternoon. Don't change anything in the bill. Give me my comeuppance. Let me take my whipping by being clotured, and pass a bad bill that hurts labor. Let's do it today. I feel like Gary Gilmore. When they were going to shoot him, he said, let's do it. Don't pussyfoot. I'm not going to change. And I will punish, I will punish, I will punish, I will punish, and you cannot stop me. You know how you'll try to stop me? You'll have an emergency meeting of the Rules Committee. You'll put rules in place that will stop you, but not me. When we were on the consent calendar, I pointed out that one of the rules for consent was being violated because any bill that has new material added, other than by a committee amendment, cannot have consent calendar status at the next stage of debate. And I saw bills where that was happening, and I didn't say anything. I let it go. I've been cooperating, but not anymore. When it comes to the interests of the people that I'm concerned about, I have no right to compromise their interests, just as I say this body has no right. And now we're coming into the part of the session where there are bills all of you all are concerned about, but you're not all concerned equally about the same bills. There are some you care about, but you're not going to get 33 votes on every one of those bills which is on the priority list. So what are you going to do about me then? And you think you're going to come to me and smile and say, let's kiss and make up, let's forget what happened the other day? Oh no. As I've explained to some of my colleagues, I feel indignation. I will express indignation. Sometimes I'll even feel anger, but I haven't been angered on this floor yet. Senator Friend and I have that in common. You haven't seen me