

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

March 22, 2005 LB 739

unless the new job was terminated by a contract cancellation. And my time is up. I will push my light again. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Redfield. Senator Chambers, and this will be your third time, as you know.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, I try, when I'm allowed, to be courteous, to be polite. On occasion, Senator Redfield, my conduct may rise to the level of being courtly. This is one of those occasions. Mr. President, I yield my time to Senator Redfield.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Redfield.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Thank you, Senator Chambers. I will continue with the list then. We were talking about the construction workers under Number 5, and I will then go on--there's a distance factor there--and then go on to 6, which is a new category. This is an individual who accepted a voluntary layoff to avoid bumping another worker. We don't currently have any system to protect someone in the workplace where there will be a layoff. And rather than seeing your younger brother or sister in the workplace who has less seniority take the bump, you may be close to retirement age or you may just be a noble, courtly person who decides to take the hit for them. And we don't want them, in fact, to be charged with an in...or a voluntary quit that would penalize them, because if we had had the other worker take it, it would have been involuntary and they would have collected. So this doesn't penalize our fund. Someone is going to collect the unemployment here. If someone is noble, let's let them take it, and I think that's a good piece to have in our bill and I hope we don't strike this section. And then existing language: An individual left his or her employment as a result of being directed to perform an illegal act. We have protections right now. We clearly would never ask anyone in the workplace to have to perform an illegal act. Eight: An individual left his or her employment because of unlawful discrimination or workplace harassment on the basis of race, sex, or age. And Number 9, an individual left his or her employment because of unsafe working conditions. We tried very carefully to craft this. We tried not to leave out important