

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

April 14, 2005      LB 673

indicates the federal government is going to try to dump the responsibility for paying the cost of this activity onto individual landowners. I am interested in those people who have no representation on this floor. The individual landowner has no representation on this floor when an actual, specific threat is posed to the landowner. Most people on this floor will talk in general terms about property taxes and being against property tax increases.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: To my way of thinking, an assessment against a property for whatever purpose constitutes a tax in the broad sense of the word, because it is levied by the government. The individual must pay it or sanctions will be imposed, up to and including disposition of that. The individual must pay it or sanctions will be imposed, up to and including disposition of that property, deducting the amount of the levy or the assessment, then letting the landowner keep the rest of it. But the landowner will no longer be a landowner. Somebody else will own that property. When we come to these specific items such as this one, it gives an opportunity for some "polygraphing" to take place. Are all these "yippity-yappers" about property taxes sincere, or do they like to talk in general terms where everybody is safe, just as if they say, I'm in favor of motherhood, but they're not in favor of providing assistance...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...to those women who are mothers and need it? Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: You may continue.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President and members of the Legislature, what I would like to do, but I'm not going to, is to get each member of the Legislature on the record as to his or her attitude toward these assessments against individual landowners to make them pay for some work that is the responsibility of the federal government. And as the morning wears on, that might be precisely what I will do. I've got to