

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

April 26, 2005 LB 70A

and claim victory. I said that days ago. He said in the paper he didn't accept this crowdad amendment out of desperation, but that's exactly why he accepted it. And it was a desperate amendment. But I don't fault him for doing that. He should have done it sooner. When you have what is called a compromise, and it holds the Legislature up to ridicule, it can be called a compromise for those who participated to try to salvage their ego and a shred of credibility. But as far as the light it places the Legislature in, a word other than "compromise" would be appropriate. I intend to spend some time on this A bill. The Speaker has already said, so everybody knows it, that there will not be eight hours required to invoke cloture on an A bill. I don't care. I will take whatever time the Speaker gives. But he needs to think well of what he does. We all need to think about what we're doing. He has his agenda, as the one who has to try to get the ship into port. My agenda is to knock barnacles off that ship, and I'm going to do that with as much determination as he manifests in trying to get this ship into harbor. And by the ship, I mean the session. You all saw a movie called the Titanic. A huge ship called the Titanic actually did have a confrontation with an iceberg. And those who built the Titanic were of the impression that God himself couldn't sink the ship. Well, they didn't know that God was an iceberg. They thought God was a spirit or a ghost somewhere floating around in disordered people's deranged minds. But God really was an iceberg, and God said, so you're challenging me? You think that because steel is harder than ice you can insult me and get away with it? Well, you're going to find out that you underestimated the old boy.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Or the old girl. Or the conglomeration that taken together constitute God. And down went that mighty, majestic Titanic, which symbolized the arrogance, the overweening pride of flawed men. We're going to see if the Legislature, as the Titanic, will make it safely to port. This barnacle that I'm attempting to scrape off the hull is small potatoes. So it doesn't matter who provokes me. We will have a contest of wills, and I am not going...