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FLOOR DEBATE

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were voting on, passed the so-called Patriot Act, and it was one of the worst things to ever be enacted into law. When congressmen were told that it allowed the examination of library lists to see which kind of books people were checking out, the congresspersons pretended to be appalled and shocked, stunned, and said such was not their intent. Many things are in that bill which encroach on the rights of citizens, but whenever a panic arises and the politicians decide to ride the crest of that wave and exploit it, the rights of the citizens always will be given short shrift. Somebody has to be there and say, stop. Although there is panic developing about methamphetamine and its manufacture, I'm not going to join the panic. There is a life that people continue to live in this country. The vast, overwhelmingly vast majority of citizens are not involved in illegal conduct of any kind. When a small group of people are going to engage in conduct which society disapproves of, I am not going to sit by and watch everybody else inconvenienced, treated inappropriately, simply because of what that small group is doing, especially when there is nothing illegal on its face, about what the small group is doing. This bill before us does not regulate methamphetamine. When young Senator Flood was on his soapbox yesterday--he's a brand new member--he got carried away. He compared this bill and these products to methamphetamine itself. This bill does not regulate the sale and distribution of methamphetamine, except where you're talking about penalties and so forth. The thrust of this bill is to deal with legal, over-the-counter drugs that have a legitimate purpose, which have been shown to be effective for that purpose.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So when people begin to blur the line and talk as though what we're discussing in this bill is methamphetamine, I have to stand and say, that's not correct. And I will oppose any efforts to do with this bill what might justifiably be done if you're talking about the drug, methamphetamine, or amphetamines. My time is up, but I'm going to turn my light on, and I'm glad that people are aware that we're going to have hours of debate on this bill. The first thing that has to be done is to keep a sharp line of demarcation between methamphetamine and the substances that we're talking