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April 28, 2005 LB 645

CLERK: Mr. President, I do. Revenue Committee will meet in Executive Session at 11:30 in Room 2022.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you. Next speaker is Senator Chambers, and this is your third time, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. I didn't realize that I was being recognized, so pardon me for delaying. Members of the Legislature, Senator Don Pederson usually accurately, but he made a blunder this morning. He said there are three things the Legislature must do: meet, budget, and adjourn. But he left out the most important thing: that's mooch, sponge, and eat off the lobbyists. Eat off the lobbyists. And I don't believe in catching my colleagues off guard. You all wanted these late nights, and you're going to have them, based on what the Speaker has laid out. When you go over there in that lounge to be fed by the lobbyists, I'm going to have some kind of protest sign that I'm going to wear, so that public will know--I'm not eating off these lobbyists. don't get paid well, but I get paid for being here, and the lobbyists don't pay me. It will have something about moochers, spongers, Lieutenant Hungry and Captain Lunch-Hunter, and all ye who enter here to sponge off the lobbyists. I want the public to watch and know who you are, and that I'm not one of them. You ought to be ashamed of yourselves. You're going to let them give you a sandwich. Here's a sandwich and some pop, oh, and some potato chips. There are poor people in this state who don't have those kind of meals given to them by anybody. And the senators dare to take these freebies when we're cutting programs, and the Governor will say there are other programs that may have to be cut to make more money to give away to these big shots, and the kind of people out there behind the glass now. When we were talking about the constitution, were they out there? No. Do they care about the constitution? No. What do they care about? Dollars. And when their dollars are at stake, you'll see them out there so thick that you couldn't grow dandelions among them. That's how thick they are. And then they tell the senators, we're going to feed you. And you're going to accept it? My goodness. For heaven's sake. Egad. Now on this bill, I think the horse is being put before the