

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

May 6, 2005

LB 454

unconcealed with no reason. If you have a gun, you can carry it anywhere, as long as it's open and we can know, and the rest of us get to know, that you're carrying that gun. That's the current law. It's not like we're without discussion on the issue of concealed carry. I think we have...we're heading down a path...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator Thompson.

SENATOR THOMPSON: ...that is very frightening, and we shouldn't go there. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Thompson. Senator Cunningham, followed by Senator Engel, on AM1233.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Thank you, Senator Cudaback and members. I strongly do support this bill. I don't intend on actively participating much in the debate, but I wanted to tell Senator Chambers one little story. I know...if I could get his attention. Senator Chambers, I know that you probably don't care much what I think of this bill, but I know that I have the story that's going to change your opinion. I'm pretty certain here. I remember when I first was campaigning, very first time. I went out to one of my counties and one of the county sheriffs was asking me my opinion on this bill and...not this particular bill, but the bill at that time. And quite frankly, at that time I hadn't thought about it much. And I said, well, I really didn't know, didn't really probably see the need for concealed carry. That's what I told him. And I had my wife with me, Deb, campaigning that day. And if you know Deb, she's not very much into politics, paying too much attention to what we do here. But we left town that day, and she was kind of irate with me. She said, Doug, the thieves are going to have guns anyway. And I mean, it just struck me that coming from my wife, who's very uninvolved in this sort of thing, and...that she would even have an opinion on it. But that was her opinion, and it seemed profound to me at the time. I will always remember that and, Senator Chambers, I'm sure that that's changed your mind. Would that be correct? Not at all? Okay. Well, I do support the bill, and I thank Senator Combs for her work. I know she's gone to a lot of work on this, and I hope you're successful, Senator.