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FLOOR DEBATE

May 18, 2005

LB 48, 748

Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Debate does cease. Senator Chambers, you're recognized to close on your motion to reconsider.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, the motion generated the discussion that I was hoping we would have. Some of the senators were in the culture corner asking me why the lobbyists are still standing there, frozen. Well, when I looked at them and they looked at me, they turned to stone. (Laughter) That's what happened. Look at...they haven't moved. One of my colleagues suggested that we form a line across that glass with our nose pressed against it, and just stand there and stare out at them, too, and see what happens. Now, this motion has resulted in some things that had a tinge of anger being said. That doesn't hurt the debate at all. Sometimes you have to get down to that level of a person's emotions to get them to say what is really on their mind. Then we know what it is that we're dealing with. I would not advise people to vote in favor of my motion to reconsider. Let LB 748 remain where that successful motion placed it. But this discussion will let those who are supporting LB 48 know that that bill is not going to have smooth sledding, and that it's not going anywhere. Senator Landis, the great negotiator, the great moderator, has put a series of amendments on his bill, then motions to advance it without any further debate or amendment, which would be a good strategy, if there were not priority motions that can be made ahead of all that. But what it does suggest is that his amendments would put the bill in the kind of shape where any other input is totally unnecessary, and the body should then just fall in line and vote from that point onward to advance it. But Senator Landis knows that that motion is not going to be successful to move a bill like that, without further debate or amendment. I haven't put any priority motions on it yet, because Senator Bourne put one up to recommit it to committee, and I think that ought to be one of the first orders of business on that bill. If that motion is successful, then the two bills have been consigned to limbo for this session, where they belong. If his motion is not successful, then I will begin to offer my priority motions, and I will not be deterred or turned aside by angry looks of frustration by anybody. And I will move