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

May 26, 2005 LB 645

interesting to me. And since I have some amendments whose purpose is to offer to strike each section so that I can get an explanation, I'm going to use my first time to talk to kind of digress. I notice that this is supposed to be a compromise that we're dealing with--everybody is on board, but I look out there in the lobby, and they're as thick as fleas on the hound of a mangy dog. So if the compromise is set and everybody is on board, what are they out there for? And while I'm on lobbyists, it came to my attention that the other night food was stolen from the mouths of the hungry and the homeless by a lobbyist. Food that was supposed to feed the spongers and the moochers in the Chamber would not be used for that purpose, so it was to be offered to the City Mission. But a lobbyist found out and got on the telephone and said to the various senators, I'm calling you (singing). And the senators said, what's up? He said, come and get it! Sooey, sooey! And the senators started running. And you know what...you know what the philosophy was that the lobbyist was acting on? Build a better mousetrap and the world will beat a path to your door. In this case, build a better rattrap and the political rats will beat a path to your door. And they fled the sinking ship of compassion, and that food was consumed by some people who had more stomach than heart. think they were supposed to keep it secret. I told you what the philosophy was--build a better mousetrap. Keeping it secret was based on a biblical exhortation. Solomon supposedly wrote Ecclesiastes, which is a collection of little witticisms, and whatnot. Paraphrasing one of those statements, stolen meat eaten in secret, how sweet it is! This must have been the sweetest meal that those senators ever had in their life. If it was mere hardtack, if it was saltpeter--that's a food, for those of you all who don't know, I'm not being obscene--it was sweet, because they pulled one over on the homeless and the hungry. Do you all see what you contribute to when you mooch and sponge? And fortunately, there was a long article in the Lincoln Journal Star this morning about the "moochery" of the senators, and the Chairperson of the Exec Board made a very candid statement. That's how you keep the senators here to work into the night--you feed them. dedication to their job, not devotion to representing the interests of their constituents, but to get that free food that the lobbyists stuff into their mouths, which falls like food