

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

May 26, 2005

LB 645

withdraw this amendment and get to the next one, but I do want to make a little use of her time. I do not have confidence in the public sector like the rest of you all do. I watch this Legislature time after time roll over for the public...I meant for the private sector. That's what I meant to say. If I said otherwise, I misspoke. It is the private sector that I have no confidence in whatsoever. I see them as thieves and bandits, whose thievery and banditry have been legalized by Legislatures such as this one. But they're being put in a position where they don't have to steal as much anymore because the Legislature does the robbing and plundering of the public to give to these private big-time bandits and thieves the taxpayers' largess. What the big bandits and thieves don't have to pay to help provide the governmental services of which they take advantage, the ordinary citizens do. I think it may have been Senator Schrock who pointed out that Qwest didn't pay any income tax last year, or whichever year he was talking about. That's what your good citizens do. Those are the good citizens you all are so interested in and concerned about. You give them tax breaks, meaning the public has to pay more to keep the government going. They don't pay taxes and that's the form that some of the breaks take, so that's revenue the state otherwise would have which it does not have. We cannot say that the economy of this state has appreciatively benefited from all these jobs these companies were supposed to create in exchange for being allowed to plunder the public till and make the public pay more money to operate government. Now we come to a bill...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...which is to cripple the ability of public power suppliers to be in the business of perhaps providing a service more expeditiously or as expeditiously, but cheaper than these private entities are doing. There is still monopoly-type activity in the so-called private sector. They find ways to thinly disguise it, to thinly mask it, but there are fewer and fewer operators in various areas of activity in this country. Senator Cunningham is always crying about what Wal-Mart is doing; how they run little businesses out of business, then they charge whatever prices they want to, pay whatever low wages they choose,...