

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

January 9, 2006      LB 542

have this much enjoyable time when we're not in session, because the standard I place on myself requires me to work much harder than I'm having to work here, or any other time on the floor of the Legislature. Nevertheless, time passes slowly in the Legislature. While we're in session, those are the slowest-moving days of my life. But since I have far fewer days in front of me than I have behind me, the slower those days move, the longer I feel like I'm living. So I want these days to last. And I want you all to think of these days in the terms that I've just described. Learn how to enjoy life while you're living it. Savor each moment. Each breath you take, pay attention to it. Be conscious of the fact that you decide when you're going to take a breath, if you concentrate on it, you decide how long you'll hold it, you decide when you'll let it go. There are people in this world right now who don't have that privilege. There are people in this world right now who don't even know that they exist. There are people in a state where their body is carrying on certain functions and their brain is functioning to a certain extent, but they have no consciousness of what is going on around them, based on what the experts and the wise people tell us. And if you doubt what I'm talking about, pick up the newspaper and read about that old man in Israel. Enjoy life while you have it. And before you get too upset with me, consider how much worse your life could be than what it is now. So I'm serving a therapeutic function here today, and I'll do it during the session. This is a good bill to do it on. It gives us the opportunity to consider whether it is a serious and worthwhile effort. You all, when you're campaigning and telling all those lies out there to the public about your concern for them, will say, yeah, government is too big, we need to cut spending, we need to cut out the fat. And now you've got something here before you that would give you that opportunity, and you're not going to do it. Senator Burling probably portrays himself as a fiscal conservative, and here he's trying to increase the size of government, and you all are going along with it. He is putting more people on this commission than is necessary. If you look at the people on this commission, there is no particular expertise when it comes to a lot of these individuals, other than the expertise that one develops from paying taxes and not wanting to do so. I saw where Senator Kremer is proposing that we allow agricultural