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January 9, 2006 LB 542

SENATOR CUDABACK: You've heard the opening on FA329 to LB 542. Open for discussion. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I must help Senator Burling earn his money by asking him some more questions.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Burling, would you yield to a question?

SENATOR BURLING: Okay.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Burling, my amendment would do the following. Wherever the word "review" appears in conjunction with this commission, I would strike that word "review" and insert "reform." Would you agree to that amendment?

SENATOR BURLING: Well, you know, whatever words we want to use, if the commission decides they want to make some recommendations for reform, they're free to do that, and if they decide they don't want to make any recommendations for reform, then they won't. So we can call the commission Reform Commission or Review Commission, either one. That doesn't change what they're charged with doing in this bill.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, when we speak in those kind of general terms, it doesn't make any difference what we direct them to do, because they can choose to do it or not. But I'm talking about accuracy in labeling. This is aimed at reforming the tax policy of this state, isn't it?

SENATOR BURLING: It's aimed...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And if it's not aimed at that, why even have it?

SENATOR BURLING: It's aimed at reviewing the tax policy of the state and then, if the commission sees fit, to suggest reforms.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, why don't you call it the Reform Commission, and if they don't have any recommendations, they