

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

January 9, 2006 LB 542A

This is a proposal that would appropriate \$100,000 for nothing. There is no way to justify \$100,000 for the creation of this commission. It's not going to do anything of value. It is not a situation where an agency has been directed by the Legislature to do something, and money is appropriated to give the agency the wherewithal to do it. You could say that what the underlying bill does is to tell a commission to do something; namely, sit around and talk about taxes. That is a waste of \$100,000. I wonder how many tax cutters have voted for this. Ordinarily, I don't really care how people vote individually, but because I think there's so much posturing on these tax cuts, I am going to get copies of the vote, and I am going to call attention to how many of those wasted this \$100,000. Then they might talk about cutting other needed programs that involve children, the poor, maybe even impoverished mothers. And \$100,000 may seem piddling, as I said earlier, but it really isn't. Do you all remember last session how much heartburn there was, Senator Stuhr, when I tried to put, I think it was \$100,000, wasn't it, into that rural program, or something like that? It wasn't a lot of money, but people were having conniptions. Those capable were having hissy fits. And now, just throwing away \$100,000 for nothing. Why? (Laugh) Maybe I'm partly responsible, by mentioning that you might owe something to your nice colleague, Senator Burling. I'm going to see how long you all are going to be nice, and how far across the board you're going to be...continue to be nice. Thirty-four votes; 28 to pass the bill on. Does that indicate how many cloture votes there will be the next time, or will there be some people so eager to get to their bill, Senator Connealy, that they will vote cloture again, and yet again on Final Reading, when the bill gets there, if it does, because we have a whole lot of wood to chop before we get to this bill again, unless the Speaker brings us to Select File immediately and jumps this bill over everything else that's on Select File. We may not get to it again. So what is my problem? I am my problem. (Laughter) I can only be, Senator Connealy, what I am, right?

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I'm going to vote against throwing this money away, and I'm going to watch all my so-called fiscal