

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

January 31, 2006 LB 75

to strenuously advocate for it, because it's such an important dollar item for our Health Endowment Fund. But in order to do that properly, we really need to suspend the rules; that is, the rule relating to germaneness, primarily. So in order to get to the material that we would like to talk to you about, we would ask your approval of the suspensions of the rule. Then we can consider the Landis amendment. If you like it, fine; if you don't like it, fine. That's the way we operate. So with that, I would simply ask for the suspension of the rules.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The germaneness rule is debatable. Open for discussion on the motion by Senator Beutler. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I had been doing a lot of work on the original form of LB 75, so I haven't had a chance to examine what we're doing here, and I think, whatever it turns out to be, the body needs to understand what might be authorized. In just scanning it, I cannot say that I favor it or that I'm opposed to it. But there's a good deal of material here, and as the discussion proceeds, I will have a chance to read it and form an opinion. I will take this opportunity, though, as I've taken it on other occasions on other bills, to point out that I'm the one, along with Senator Foley--for whatever motivations he had--who voted against the rules that the body decided to adopt. And you know why I voted against adoption of those rules? Because there are parts of them that I don't like. But I always stay within the rules, and I always mention that my colleagues, who in the past used to change rules to try to stop me, are the ones who have to suspend the rules. And there are rules in the Rule Book now, notably the cloture rule, passed to stop me. And I stay within any and every rule that is in that book. I even do a better job being a nonreligious person than that "Chrishian" preacher who was here, who violated the agreement that he entered into. He wouldn't follow the rules, because he's a preacher and he doesn't have to. But here I, the reprobate, follow and adhere to all of the rules that are in that book, even though I vote against adopting them, because I say I'll learn the rules and beat you at your game, whatever they are. I don't know whether I'll vote to suspend the rules or not. There might be times when that needs to be done, in order that very important business needs to be