

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

February 2, 2006 LB 248

\$54.75 for the month, and the other got no check at all, but rather, owed the state \$40. I mean, that's what being in the Legislature means. And do you think the public has any awareness of that? How many people do you think would go to work on payday and they'd say, you don't get a check this week or this pay period or this month? Why, you better hope that Senator Combs' bill is not in operation at that time. But imagine how ballistic a person would go if he or she went to pick up the paycheck and they said, you don't get a check; you owe us \$40. So many times, what the Legislature does and what being a member of the Legislature entails are completely unknown by the public, and it's why we in the short time some of us may have left need to try to do something to apprise the public of what this job consists of, and the sacrifices that people actually make. There are senators I don't get along with here, but that doesn't mean they're not making sacrifices, and it doesn't mean that I believe they shouldn't be treated better as far as compensation. My wants are so simple that a Spartan way of life is extravagant for me, but I wouldn't put my standards of living on anybody else, and it's unfair...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...for the public to do it to all those who are members of the Legislature, who do the kind of work that they do. Senator Baker has transcended this morning what I thought he would do, and I again want to express my appreciation, but I don't want him to get too used to it, because the next bill is his, too, and I don't know whether we're going to arrive at an agreement quite that easily. But I don't believe any of the amendments that I've crafted will undermine that bill. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Further discussion? Senator Loudon, on FA381.

SENATOR LOUDEN: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. I was wondering if Senator Baker would yield to some questions, please.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Baker, would you yield to a question